

# Jordan Times

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## Dutch leaders postpone Israel visit

AMSTERDAM (R) — A diary mix-up has forced postponement of a visit to Israel by Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek, the government said Tuesday. The Netherlands has criticised Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but a government spokesman said the official visit planned for next month was off "only due to a technical problem with dates." The spokesman told Reuters by telephone from the Hague that Israel had told the Netherlands that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres would not be present during the third week of May, the scheduled dates of the visit. Israel proposed that the visit be put back to May 29-31, but this time Van den Broek would not be available. In February, Defence Minister Willem van Eekelen cancelled an official visit to Israel as a signal of Dutch disapproval of Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza. A month earlier, Van den Broek announced the Israeli ambassador to the Hague to urge that Israeli troops show more restraint. The Dutch Labour Party, main opposition to Lubbers' ruling centre-right coalition, had planned to comment on the proposed visit in parliament Wednesday. The visit had earlier drawn criticism from far-left parliamentary groups.

## Arab doctors support uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Doctors Federation (ADF) has expressed total support for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza and urged the Arab World to extend support for the anti-occupation revolt in all fields and at all levels. In a statement dated April 10 and carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tuesday, the federation also called on Egypt to sever relations with Israel and abrogate the 1979 Camp David agreements with the Zionist state and resume its place in the Arab fold and in the "struggle against Zionism and imperialism." The ADF statement welcomed the proposal for convening an emergency Arab summit to discuss the uprising and expressed hope that the summit would come up with a united Arab stand against American-led peace efforts in the Middle East. The statement condemned the latest American proposal put forward by Secretary of State George Shultz and said the proposal was designed to contain the Palestinian uprising and aborting the anti-occupation revolt. The federation also called on the international community and organisations to put an end to Israel's "barbaric and inhuman practices against the Palestinian people."

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## Ureigat to serve Arab council

TUNIS (Petra) — The Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers Tuesday elected Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureigat to serve as chairman of the council's executive bureau until December. The bureau includes Jordan, Iraq, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, North and South Yemen.

## Nuseibah named head of group at IPU talks

GUATEMALA (Petra) — The Muslim group to the 79th session of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) Tuesday elected head of the Jordanian delegation Hazem Nuseibah as chairman of the group and Parliament Secretary General Hani Khair as rapporteur. Other members of the Jordanian delegation to the meeting — Sulaiman Al Qudab, Rizq Bataineh and Eduard Khamis — were elected members of a newly-formed committee entrusted with making contacts with other parliamentary delegations to canvass support for convening an international peace conference on the Middle East.

## Amman council helps uprising

AMMAN (Petra) — The Greater Amman Municipal Council decided Tuesday to contribute one day's salary of its staff to the Zakat Fund to help the Palestinian uprising.

## Arabsat donates funds to uprising

DAMASCUS (Petra) — The Arab Satellite Corporation (Arabsat) general assembly concluded a two-day meeting here Tuesday and decided to contribute the corporation's income for one day to help the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. The assembly also approved the final account and elected Bahrain, Tunisia, Palestine and South Yemen for provisional membership in the Arabsat board of directors.

## Resistance battles Israeli-SLA force

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — Resistance fighters traded rocket and machinegun fire with Israeli troops and their South Lebanon Army (SLA) allies at the edge of Israel's self-declared "security zone" Tuesday, security sources said.

## Ershad lifts emergency

DHAKA (R) — Bangladeshi President Hossain Mohammad Ershad lifted the state of emergency imposed last November at the height of an opposition campaign to topple him, state television said Tuesday.

## Kuwait, Jordan draw

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Jordan held favourite Kuwait to a scoreless draw Tuesday in the Group B soccer qualifying round of the Asian Cup championship here. The top two teams in the Group B matches here will play in Qatar in December. Jordan and Kuwait have three points each from two matches while Malaysia and Japan two each and Pakistan none in the group.

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# Israeli troops wound over 40 Palestinians

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops wounded more than 40 people Tuesday during violent protests in the occupied Gaza Strip hometowns of Palestinians expelled to Lebanon Monday.**

Officials at Shifa and Ahli hospitals in Gaza City said they treated 42 Palestinians for wounds from rubber bullets, beatings and tear-gas inhalation. They said troops shot and wounded a Palestinian, aged 20, in Jabalya refugee camp.

Troops were out in force throughout Gaza and closed Jabalya, Nuseirat and Sha'ti refugee camps to choke off protests in response to the expulsion of eight Palestinians Monday. Five of the expelled Palestinians were from Gaza.

In the occupied West Bank village of Tallinza, the army said demonstrators set up roadblocks and trapped a bus carrying soldiers. They hurled stones, slightly

injuring an officer. Troops fired shots and wounded two Palestinians.

The U.S. ambassador to Israel, Thomas Pickering, accused Israel of using excessive force and denying legal rights in its handling of the uprising.

United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed to Israel to rescind the expulsions and expressed concern the demolition of 14 houses in the West Bank village of Beitwa would aggravate tension.

The army said troops shot dead three Palestinians Monday night in the West Bank village of Kafr Ra'i, near Jenin, hometown of two deportees.

In the Nasser neighbourhood of Gaza City, home of expelled Abdul Aziz Odeh, Palestinians burned tyres, erected barricades and raised Palestinian flags.

"It looks like a liberated area," an Arab witness said.

Odeh, a former lecturer at Gaza's Islamic University, has been regarded as spiritual guide of the Islamic Jihad movement.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres defended expulsions as one of the most effective deter-

rents against anti-occupation activists.

"We are not expelling residents. We are only expelling agitators, preachers (of violence) and extremists," Peres told Israel Radio.

Four of the nine members on the Rafah Municipal Council in the Gaza Strip resigned in answer to an appeal by the leadership of the four-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied areas, Palestinian sources told Reuters.

An Israeli official said at least three of the councillors, appointed by Israeli authorities, had submitted written resignations.

Israeli generals said the expulsions of the eight Palestinians had so far not ignited the protests expected, but they warned it was still too early to draw conclusions.

Widespread violence followed Israel's last expulsions in January. At least 143 Palestinians and two Israelis have died since the uprising in the occupied territories erupted in December.

Since then, Israel has imprisoned 4,800 Palestinians. There were also demonstrations in the Zeitoun district outside the house of expelled activist Mohammad Abu Shakra.

The expulsions failed to appease militant Jewish settlers who continued to picket Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shanon's (Continued on page 5)

## Municipal, village leaders hail King's stand

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mayors and chairmen of municipal and village councils in the governorates of Irbid, Karak, Tafieh and Zarqa and in the districts of Ramtha and Koura Tuesday voiced deep appreciation of and pride in Jordan's position towards finding a settlement to the Palestinian problem and the Middle East conflict.

In cables they sent to His Majesty King Hussein, the mayors and municipal and village council chairmen praised the Jordanian position, as spelled out in a memo handed over to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz last week, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said.

Petra quoted the cables as saying that the Jordanian memo contained "honest and clear-cut recommendations over the Palestinian question, which is the cause of all Arabs and Muslims."

The cables also recalled His Majesty the King's untiring efforts to rally the Arab World and referred in particular to the King's successful endeavours towards bolstering Arab solidarity. Such efforts were crowned with the success of the extraordinary Arab summit held in Amman last November, the cables said.

The King's honourable defence of the rights of the Arab Nation has won the Arabs and Palestinians a true recognition of their (Continued on page 5)

## Crown Prince visits Mashari' village

MASHARI' (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday emphasised the government's interest in meeting the demands of citizens in every part of the Kingdom and called for an immediate study of agricultural marketing problems.

The Crown Prince, speaking at a meeting with citizens in Mashari' in Irbid Governorate, stressed the need for closer cooperation and coordination among all parties concerned to find a speedy solution to problems impeding smooth marketing of agricultural products from outlying regions.

The Crown Prince listened to demands from Mashari' citizens at the meeting, held at the Mashari' Development Unit. The Crown Prince was accompanied

by the governor of Irbid and the president of the Jordan Valley Authority as well as other senior officials.

## Trubilin ends visit, praises Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Republic and President of the Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society Nikolai Trubilin Tuesday left Amman at the end of a several day visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and held talks with senior officials. Trubilin said at a press conference before his departure that King Hussein's visit in last December to the Soviet Union

had contributed significantly to enhancing Soviet-Jordanian relations and stressed that the King's speech in Moscow was received with great interest. Trubilin added that his visit to Jordan provided an opportunity to learn about the great history of the Jordanian people and to see the achievements of Jordan in all fields.

Trubilin also said that he was leaving Jordan with many positive impressions about Jordan's achievements, including the AI

# Jordan urges EC effort to end Israel's repressive measures

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Jordan Monday called on the European Community (EC) to exert efforts and put an end to Israel's repressive measures against the Palestinian people living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The call was made by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri at a meeting with the EC ambassadors accredited to Jordan, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Petra quoted Masri as saying that the Israeli military authorities' actions against the West Bank village of Beitwa, where an Israeli girl was killed by a Jewish settler last week, the demolition of Palestinian homes in the town, a siege imposed on the area and the mass arrests of villagers were part of Israel's daily practices directed against the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Masri said Israel's policy of imposing media blackout was designed to conceal from world public opinion the truth about its atrocities, demolition of homes and indiscriminate arrests as well as acts of torture, deportation, starvation and intimidation directed against the Arabs.

The foreign minister appealed to the EC countries to take serious and effective action in cooperation with world organisations and at international forums and in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to put an end to Israel's practices and extend assistance to the Arab people living under Israeli rule, Petra said.

The minister briefed the ambassadors on the outcome of

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's talks with Jordanian officials on the U.S. proposals for a Middle East peace settlement. He reaffirmed Jordan's stand with regard to the U.S. proposals.

## Dudin condemns expulsion

On Monday, Jordan voiced its condemnation of Israel's expulsion of eight Palestinians to Lebanon from the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin was quoted by the Qatari News Agency (QNA) as saying the expulsion, like earlier ones, was made under the pretext of safeguarding security and peace.

"This expulsion took place as the uprising against the Israeli occupation is continuing and as

the Arab people of Palestine are united in their demand for an end to occupation and for freedom," Dudin was quoted as saying by QNA.

Britain also condemned the expulsion and said the action was illegal.

"We unreservedly deplore the deportations of these eight Palestinians and the threat that 12 more will follow," a Foreign Office spokesman told Reuters.

The United States said the expulsion would only inflame political passions in the region.

"We strongly oppose deportations from the occupied territories," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. "We believe that they are counter-productive... and that they only further inflame passions."

# Arafat denies Gorbachev urged recognition of Israel

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Tuesday denied reports that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had urged the PLO to recognise Israel.

"This is not correct. Comrade Gorbachev did not ask me to recognise Israel," Arafat told a press conference during his current visit to Kuwait. The PLO chairman came to Kuwait after talks in Moscow.

"What Gorbachev precisely said is that the Palestinian people are entitled to the same right of self-determination and statehood as the Israelis," he said.

Arafat added: "I swear to God he did not" ask the PLO to recognise Israel.

Arafat said Gorbachev gave him assurances that the Soviet Union was "relentlessly working towards a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement whereby the Palestinian people enjoy the right of self-determination."

The Soviet leader also told him that the proposed international

conference for peace in the Middle East was "the most effective mechanism to achieve this goal."

Arafat also quoted Gorbachev as telling him "the establishment of just and durable peace in the Middle East is one of the priorities of the Soviet policy and to achieve this goal we are prepared to deal actively with all parties who share with us this goal."

"I talked frankly with comrade Gorbachev. The understanding was complete. I found warmth in Moscow's snow," he said, adding "my visit was extremely successful and will have a far-reaching impact on the situation in the Middle East."

Differing accounts from the PLO and Moscow of what Gorbachev told Arafat have highlighted a Soviet desire to project a new image in the region, political analysts say.

According to the Soviet news agency TASS, Gorbachev, who has stepped up informal contacts with Israel after a 20-year diplomatic break, had this message

(Continued on page 5)

# Moscow believes START can be signed at summit

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Moscow believes a U.S.-Soviet accord halving long-range nuclear missiles can be signed at next month's summit, a Soviet official said Tuesday.

"We do believe (it)," Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told U.S. television. "It depends on the diplomats in Geneva and it depends also on the political will on both sides."

He said diplomats had been working on the strategic arms reduction treaty (START) for months and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz were still trying to speed up agreement.

But U.S. officials have said they do not believe the accord can be signed by President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev at the summit in Moscow late next month, although it may still be signed by early next year.

Gerasimov stopped short of predicting it would be signed at the summit, saying: "You asked

me what I want and this is what I want."

In Geneva, a top Soviet disarmament official said Tuesday the START talks had made progress recently and that a treaty could be ready for signing at the Moscow summit.

"There are signs of a further rapprochement of the sides' positions on a number of outstanding issues," said Yuri Nazarkin, the chief Soviet delegate to the 40-nation Geneva conference on disarmament.

In a speech to the conference, Nazarkin said he did not want to go into details. "I would only like to confirm that the Soviet side continues to consider real the possibility of elaborating a mutually acceptable agreement by the time of (the summit) and is ready to work in this direction."

Originally, the two sides expressed hope that a START treaty would be ready for signing at the summit. But both sides have since said that the summit would be held even if a START treaty is not ready.

# Hijackers release 12 hostages, says demand remains unchanged

LARNACA, Cyprus (Agencies) — A group of hostages left the commandeered Kuwaiti airliner at Larnaca airport Tuesday night and the hijackers said they had freed 12 captives.

The hijackers said in a statement they had not given up their demand for freedom for 17 Arab prisoners in Kuwait and would continue their journey.

The statement in Arabic said they had released 10 passengers "as a gesture of goodwill." The other two were Palestinians with Jordanian passports freed "as a gift" to the Palestinian revolution.

"We will continue our journey without giving up our demands for the release of the 17 in Kuwait," the statement added.

The hijackers seized the Boeing 747 eight days ago on a flight to Kuwait from Bangkok. The 17 Arabs whose freedom they seek are imprisoned in Kuwait after being convicted of bombing offences there.

There was no immediate indication of the fate of the remaining hostages aboard the Kuwait Airways plane, estimated now to number 32.

Eyewitnesses quoted by news agencies said airport workers were refuelling the plane. Algiers has been mentioned as a possible destination.

A large refuelling truck was parked close to the plane.

The released people, whose number could not be estimated by watching reporters because of the nighttime darkness, were driven away from the Boeing 747 at around 10:25 p.m. (1925 GMT).

Earlier the gunmen had said they donned "death shrouds" and "death with glory is more important than life with dishonor."

The gunmen had renewed their demand for fuel. About 40 people apparently remained aboard the jetliner, which the sky pirates said they named "the plane of martyrdom."

Abu Ghazala, an official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which has been negotiating in the crisis, told Reuters: "Up to know everything is okay."

Asked if the plane would go to Algiers, he replied: "Algiers." Asked what would happen there, he said: "It will be okay for everyone."

The hijackers had killed two passengers Saturday and Monday and had also beaten up hostages to press their demands for fuel.

The plane, seized over the Arabian Sea with 112 people aboard, was initially diverted to Mashhad in northeast Iran.

The freed hostages were taken in three ambulances to Larnaca district hospital, a few kilometres from the airport, for medical checks.

# OIC leaders rally behind Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A mini-summit of Islamic leaders concluded its sessions late Monday and issued a statement supporting Kuwait in week-old crisis over the hijacking of a Kuwaiti airliner.

The seven leaders of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) condemned the hijacking and praised Kuwait for not giving way to the hijackers' demands.

"The meeting condemned the criminal hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner and expressed solidarity with Kuwait in support of Kuwait's principled stand in refusing to give in to the hijackers' blackmail and pressure," it said in a statement.

"The participants stressed the strongest solidarity with Kuwait,

and considers the hijacking as an ugly crime that runs counter to Islamic teachings," the communiqué said.

The conferees urged the international community to support Kuwait and help end the incident while ensuring the passengers' safety.

The communiqué also expressed the summit's deep concern over the protracted Iran-Iraq war. It called for immediate cessation of hostilities, in conformity with U.S. Security Council Resolution 598, for a settlement of "all outstanding problems between the two neighbouring Muslim countries."

The communiqué described last year's rioting by Iranian pilgrims at Mecca as "saddening and

dangerous events" and expressed "full understanding and support for the measures taken by Saudi Arabia to ensure the sanctity of the holy places and protection of the pilgrims."

It was apparent backing for a Saudi decision to limit the number of Iranians during the upcoming pilgrimage season to avert a repeat of last year's clashes with Saudi security that led to the death of more than 400 people, mainly Iranians.

Of the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli occupied territories, the Islamic meeting saluted "the heroic national uprising of the Palestinian people against Israeli occupation and defence of their inalienable national rights."

# U.N.: Arbitration only can settle row with U.S.

THE HAGUE (R) — The United Nations told the International Court of Justice Tuesday that only arbitration could end a dispute over a U.S. bid to close the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) U.N. mission in New York.

"Arbitration remains the only way in which the dispute may be solved," U.N. Under-Secretary General for Legal Affairs, Carl-August Fleischhauer, told the 15-judge court.

He was answering questions during the last day of a two-day public hearing over a U.N. request that the court should give an advisory opinion recommending

Despite opposition from the Reagan administration, the U.S. Congress in December passed an anti-terrorism law calling for the closure of the PLO mission.

The U.S. Justice Department filed a suit in a federal district court in New York last month to close the mission after PLO officials refused to comply with the new law.

Fleischhauer said he expected the World Court to rule on the issue by May, in time for its views to be presented to the New York judge. The World Court itself set no date.

The law has sparked the most serious rift between the U.N. and its host country in the world

body's 43-year history.

The U.N. says the law violates its 1947 headquarters agreement with the United States establishing the U.N. as a world body in New York. It wants the issue settled by arbitration procedures set out in the accord.

The United States, arguing that domestic law superseded international obligations, has refused to go to arbitration and declined to appear at the World Court hearing.

The United Nations invited the PLO to establish an observer mission in 1974 and its representatives routinely participate in meetings, but without voting rights.



# Committee on AIDS reviews ways for public awareness

AMMAN (J.T.) — A national committee charged with taking measures for combating AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) held its first meeting at the Health Ministry in Amman Tuesday and reviewed measures for spreading information on the killer disease to the public.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh attended part of the meeting and said that combating the disease should not be the sole responsibility of the Health Ministry, "it requires efforts by both public and private sectors."

The committee members saw a documentary film on AIDS and decided that the film be screened by Jordan Television for the benefit of the public.

The committee, set up by the Health Ministry, comprises representatives of the Ministries of Education, Interior, Information, Higher Education and Awqaf and Islamic Affairs as well as the Public Security Department, the

Jordanian Press Association, the Bar Association, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the General Federation of Jordanian Women.

Also on Tuesday Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh met in his office with Mr. Sture Korpi a specialist on social affairs employed by the Swedish government, who will take part in a seminar on child health care and rehabilitation of the handicapped due to open here Wednesday.

Korpi and Hamzeh exchanged views on health services and the minister explained Jordan's programmes in health care.

The seminar, which will be

organised under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, will review 10 different working papers by various ministries and organisations. The seminar will concentrate on future health care plans in Jordan and plans for rehabilitating handicapped people in the Kingdom.

Altogether five leading Swedish experts in child health care and rehabilitation of the handicapped will attend the seminar and will hold talks with Jordanian specialists and officials.

Workshops and other contacts will be organised during the week and on Saturday a press conference will be arranged to present the results of the meetings.

The seminar is organised in cooperation with the Swedish embassy in Amman, the Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief and the Radda Barnen Institute of Child Health Care and Development.



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh attends the first meeting of the committee on AIDS in Amman Tuesday

## Expert discusses remote sensing techniques

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Remote sensing techniques can be used in the process of prospecting for underground water in Jordan, according to Dr. Farouk Al Baz, director of the Remote Sensing Centre at Boston University in the United States.

Baz, in a lecture delivered at the Water Authority of Jordan (W.A.J.), said that remote sensing techniques were applied successfully in the Western Desert regions of Egypt resulting in the discovery of huge water resources.

These resources are now exploited in agriculture in general, and in the production of wheat in particular, Baz said in his lecture.

He said this technique is being applied in many parts of America, Africa and Australia.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan last October opened a meeting at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources to review work of a Norwegian company employed to conduct remote sensing in the exploration of underground water resources in Wadi Araba region.

The delegation leader Khaled Al Sheikh presented a briefing on the educational system and Jordan's experience in education.

During the meeting, talks also centred on means of benefiting both countries from each other's experience in educational fields.

## AOSM starts meeting on standardisation projects

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The executive bureau of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) opened a three-day meeting in Amman Tuesday to discuss a number of standardisation projects common to all Arab countries, and to prepare for a general AOSM meeting to be held in Amman in October 1988.

Delegates from Palestine, Qatar and Kuwait are taking part in the bureau meeting which will also discuss the publication of a guidebook for AOSM as prepared by the organisation's technical committees.

The meeting will also review activities and programmes to be carried out by AOSM during 1988.

The Amman based AOSM was founded in 1968 to unify technical terms and standard specifications for products.

It has 23 technical committees and runs an Arab Centre for Information and Documentation. It also assists in the establishment of national bodies and collaborates with international standards agencies.

Delegates to the seminar, who represented universities in Jordan and other Arab countries to discuss teaching of foreign languages and their effect on the Arabic language, also recommended that such a society contribute to the

process of Arabisation of foreign terms.

Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan met Monday with a visiting delegation representing Tanta University in Egypt and briefed them on Yarmouk University's development and future plans.

The visit coincided with the opening of a seminar at Yarmouk University on the development of educational systems in Jordan.

Three professors at the Faculty of Arts spoke at the seminar.

## Seminar calls for Arab Linguistics Society

IRBID (J.T.) — A seminar on linguistics held at Yarmouk University has recommended that an Arab Linguistics Society be established and have its headquarters at Yarmouk University, according to the local press Tuesday.

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## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**EXHIBITION:** Her Royal Highness Princess Majda Ra'ad Tuesday inaugurated a handmade products exhibition, held by the Yadda Charitable Society and graduated participants in a six-month sewing course for ladies.

**MAPS, AERIAL SURVEYS:** A meeting was held at the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC) in Amman Tuesday to review means for speeding up the process of making maps and aerial surveys of Jordan's different regions. The meeting, attended by RJGC's higher committee was chaired by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abul Taleb. It discussed cooperation between RJGC and other government departments on production of maps to be used by these departments for surveying purposes.

**POLICE GRADUATES:** Public Security Director Lt.-Gen. Abdul Hadi Al Majali Tuesday graduated police students enrolled in two police training courses, which were attended by policemen from the Badia and border police and the various police and public security departments. At the end of the ceremony Majali presented the excellent students with awards.

**COMPUTER CENTRE:** An executive committee of a pan-Islamic development network and water resources management has concluded a four-day meeting in Amman. The committee's chairman Mahmoud Talhoumi said that seven out of 12 members who attended the meeting discussed and endorsed measures designed to facilitate the work of the network and recommended the establishment of a computer centre to help assist the network's operations.

**ACO OFFICIALS:** Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Tuesday received Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) Secretary General Abdul Aziz Al Adasani and the organisations Director General Taleb Al Taher, who briefed him on the resolutions and recommendations adopted during the ACO Standing Bureau's 17th session, which was held in Tunis last month. The permanent bureau took a decision allowing the Egyptian cities to return to the organisation membership and approved granting loans to Irbid, Anjara and Mafraq.

**BALQA PROJECTS:** Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment is currently supervising work on a number of road and school construction projects in Balqa governorate costing JD 504,851.

**SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE:** Jordan University of Science and Technology President Kamel Al Ajlouni Tuesday opened the second scientific conference organised by faculties of medicine and pharmacy, with doctors and pharmacists from Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services and the private sector attending. Ajlouni highlighted the importance of scientific research and underscored the need for cooperation to prove the scientific facts and enrich human development.

**SWEDISH OFFICIAL:** Swedish Ministry of Social Affairs under-secretary and the accompanying delegation Tuesday visited Usama Ibn Zaid Centre for the rehabilitation of juveniles in Yajouz.

**BRIDGES TO OPEN SOON:** Work is being speeded up for completing the construction of the road interchanges and the bridges at Amman's Ministry of Interior Circle and the Sports City crossroads by the end of April, according to Greater Amman Municipality officials. They said that the mayor, Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, was following up the progress of work at the two sites day by day with frequent inspection visits to study the situation. The officials said that the finishing touches now remain before the two projects are completed and the opening will be marked by a grand ceremony.

**MUTA UNIVERSITY:** At least 30 members of staff from Muta University are taking part in a seminar on measurements and standardisation which was opened Monday by University President Ali Mahafza. The participants from various faculties will hear lectures and take part in practical training.

**AJLOUN FESTIVAL:** Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni will open a cultural festival in Ajloun Wednesday. A book and painting exhibitions will be part of the event which will last until April 16.

**HOSPITAL VISITS:** Visitors at Al Bashir Government Hospital in Amman will be banned on Tuesdays from now on, according to instructions by the hospital's director Abdul Aziz Shreideh. The decision was taken to ensure more rest for the patients, according to hospital officials.

**DOCTORS TO OMAN:** The Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) has announced that Oman expressed desire to conclude contracts with Jordanian specialists. JMA President Mamdouh Abbadi requested specialists to apply through the association which is handling the procedures. JMA earlier arranged through cooperation with the Health Ministry to find jobs for Jordanian doctors in Libya and North Yemen.

**PLASTIC ART:** A new plastic art lobby will be opened soon at the Amman Plaza Hotel compound. Plastic art works for a number of Jordanian as well as renowned Arab artists will be on display at the lobby, which will be named Al Wasiti Lobby, after the Arab artist who drew Maqamat Al Hariri (Arab rhythmic prose) in the 13th century.

**UNICEF COMMITTEE:** The United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) regional office staff Tuesday elected a new seven member executive committee, headed by senior planning officer Andee Roberfrid, who was elected without vote as chairman of the UNICEF Amman Staff Association Executive Committee, for a term of one year.

## Fragmentation of land holdings, fluctuation of rainfall hurt agricultural production

AMMAN — A lecture delivered at the University of Jordan shed light on the causes for poor agricultural production in the Kingdom and the ensuing migration of people from rural to urban regions.

Dr. Nasim Ibrahim from the Faculty of Agriculture told his audience that fragmentation of land holdings and the fluctuation of rainfall remain the main underlying causes for this result.

Soil erosion, mismanagement of land, and difficulties encountered in marketing products are also important factors for failure,

Dr. Ibrahim said. He said that the frustration of farmers has led to enormous social and economic problems in rural regions and prompted farmers to abandon their lands in many cases.

According to Dr. Ibrahim, small land holdings are getting smaller all the time due to inheritance or sale of part of the land, or the exploitation of agricultural land for building purposes.

He said that agricultural units of an average 32 dunums in 1972 were reduced to 28 dunums in 1982, despite the fact that agricul-

tural land has increased during this period by at least 2.3 million dunums.

Dr. Ibrahim said that against the fragmentation process of land holdings there have been unification of two or more adjoining pieces of land by owners of land for joint ventures or sale of land.

But he said between 1973 and 1986 the number of fragmentation cases exceeded those of unification.

The shrinking of land holdings, Dr. Ibrahim said, led to a decline in production.



CHARITY BAZAAR: Her Royal Highness Princess Taghreed Tuesday opens the annual charity bazaar of the Al Nahda Women's Society at the Orthodox Club in Amman. The proceeds of the bazaar will benefit the society's projects. On

display are silverware, mirrors, embroidery and other items for domestic use. Princess Taghreed is honorary president of the society which was established in 1956 and which provides for the education of 53 orphan girls (Petra photo).

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:55 ..... Cartoons  
16:10 ..... Children's programmes  
16:40 ..... Horizons of Knowledge  
17:10 ..... Issara Globe TV  
17:40 ..... Local series  
18:30 ..... Programme on Jordanian universities  
19:00 ..... Cairo Newsletter  
19:10 ..... Contemporary issues  
19:40 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Local programme on Jordan  
22:00 ..... Wrestling  
23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic

#### PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Anjound' Hui En Jordanie  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Sports Magazine  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Sweet Surrender  
21:00 ..... Hooperman (comedy series)  
21:30 ..... Tales of the Unexpected  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Napoleon and Josephine (A Love Story)

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM  
Tel: 77411-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 ..... Light Music  
07:30 ..... Newsdesk  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
10:00 ..... News Summary  
10:30 ..... Morning Show Cont.  
11:00 ..... 30 Minute Theatre  
11:30 ..... Songs from Movies  
12:00 ..... News Summary  
12:30 ..... Pop Session  
13:00 ..... News Summary  
13:30 ..... Pop Session  
14:00 ..... News Bulletin  
14:10 ..... Instrumentals  
14:30 ..... The Young Sound  
15:00 ..... News Summary  
15:30 ..... News in Summary  
16:00 ..... Instrumentals  
16:30 ..... Old Favourites  
17:00 ..... Jordan Weekly  
17:30 ..... Pop Session  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:30 ..... Science Report  
19:00 ..... News Desk

### DATE WITH A STAR

20:30 ..... Evening Show  
21:00 ..... News Summary  
21:30 ..... Evening Show Cont.  
22:00 ..... News Summary  
22:30 ..... Evening Show Cont.  
23:00 ..... News Headlines  
24:00 ..... Close Down

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1223 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Byron Readings  
07:40 Book Choice 07:45 Reflections  
07:50 Financial News 08:00 World News 08:09 24 Hours: News Summary  
08:30 Report on Religion 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:20 Meridian 10:00 World News 10:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
10:30 News 11:00 Reflections 11:15 Classical Record Review 11:30 My Word 12:00 World News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Folk in Britain 13:00 News Summary followed by Classical 13:30 Jazz Score 14:00 World News 14:09 News about Britain 14:15 Byron Readings 14:25 A Letter from Wales 14:30 Meridian 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Great Love Duet 15:25 The Farming World 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 16:30 Development '88 17:00 Outlook, opening with 5-minute News 17:45 Report on Religion 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 Education Today 18:30 King Street Junior 19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary 19:15 Counterpoint 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:09 A Letter from Wales 20:15 Society Today 20:30 News Ideas  
VOICE OF AMERICA  
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 12510 Hz  
07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:30 VOA Morning 10:40 Newsline 10:50 Newsline 11:00 Newsline 11:10 Newsline 11:20 Newsline 11:30 Newsline 11:40 Newsline 11:50 Newsline 12:00 Newsline 12:10 Newsline 12:20 Newsline 12:30 Newsline 12:40 Newsline 12:50 Newsline 13:00 Newsline 13:10 Newsline 13:20 Newsline 13:30 Newsline 13:40 Newsline 13:50 Newsline 14:00 Newsline 14:10 Newsline 14:20 Newsline 14:30 Newsline 14:40 Newsline 14:50 Newsline 15:00 Newsline 15:10 Newsline 15:20 Newsline 15:30 Newsline 15:40 Newsline 15:50 Newsline 16:00 Newsline 16:10 Newsline 16:20 Newsline 16:30 Newsline 16:40 Newsline 16:50 Newsline 17:00 Newsline 17:10 Newsline 17:20 Newsline 17:30 Newsline 17:40 Newsline 17:50 Newsline 18:00 Newsline 18:10 Newsline 18:20 Newsline 18:30 Newsline 18:40 Newsline 18:50 Newsline 19:00 Newsline 19:10 Newsline 19:20 Newsline 19:30 Newsline 19:40 Newsline 19:50 Newsline 20:00 Newsline 20:10 Newsline 20:20 Newsline 20:30 Newsline 20:40 Newsline 20:50 Newsline 21:00 Newsline 21:10 Newsline 21:20 Newsline 21:30 Newsline 21:40 Newsline 21:50 Newsline 22:00 Newsline 22:10 Newsline 22:20 Newsline 22:30 Newsline 22:40 Newsline 22:50 Newsline 23:00 Newsline 23:10 Newsline 23:20 Newsline 23:30 Newsline 23:40 Newsline 23:50 Newsline 24:00 Newsline

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* Art exhibition by Mohammad Bouleis and Mousira Al Tushish at the Housing Bank Gallery.

\* From Gutenberg to Electronics Dar el Tili Goethe Institute.

\* An art exhibition by Mohammad Abu Zaid at the Alia Art Gallery.

\* Exhibition entitled "Groundwater and Mineral Resources in Jordan" at the National Museum of Fine Arts.

\* An art exhibition by Samer Tabbar at the National Museum of Fine Arts.

\* Exhibition of Palestinian Folklore and Books on Palestine at the University of Jordan.

\* Plastic art exhibition by Dekran Yorgian at Plaza Hotel.

\* Exhibition of photographs of Jordan at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

\* Exhibition by Abdul Salam Kanaan, at the French Cultural Centre.

\* Oil paintings exhibition by Syrian artist Mario Mousalli at the Petra Bank Gallery in Wadi Sirjan.

\* Indoor plants exhibition at Mu'ta University in Karak.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ..... Tel. 6610267

American Centre ..... 64371

American Centre Library ..... 64120

British Council ..... 6361478

French Cultural Centre ..... 637009

Goethe Institute ..... 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 64203

Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 64203

Turkish Cultural Centre ..... 639777

Haya Arts Centre ..... 665195

Hussain Youth City ..... 6671816

Y.W.C.A. ..... 64251

Amman Municipal Library ..... 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library ..... 643555

### MUSEUMS

\* Children's Heritage and Science

### MUSEUM

"Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

\* Jordanian Museum: Jewellery and costumes from 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631700.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

### SERVICE CLUBS

Lines Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.

Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.

Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.

Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussien, Tel. 661757.

Terraviva Church (Roman Catholic), Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, Tel. 678906.

Anglican International Church (Anglican) Jabal Amman, Tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 717331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 717331.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, Tel. 717331.

Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel. 677534.

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 3320-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

##### ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 ..... Agaba (RJ)

10:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)

10:45 ..... Kuwait (RJ)

10:50 ..... Damascus (RJ)

10:55 ..... Dhahran (RJ)

11:00 ..... Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)

11:05 ..... Tripoli (LH)

11:10 ..... Kuwait (KL)

11:15 ..... Medina, Damascus (SV)

11:20 ..... Karachi (PK)

11:25 ..... London, Geneva (RJ)

11:30 ..... Madrid, Belgrade (RJ)



The Jordan Times intends, over the next few weeks, to serialise the book, *Notes on Village Architecture in Jordan*, by Ammar Khammash. Khammash's book was part of the requirement for his Bachelor degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Photos and sketches appearing with these articles were first exhibited at Southwestern in March 1986. The publication of the book was funded by The Royal Endowment for Culture and Education, Amman. It is being reprinted with permission.

AS EXPRESSED in the title of this publication, the term "notes" is meant to explain the roughness, freshness and naivete of the substance of the text. This book, work, publication, journal, or collection of notes first started as a catalog — another possible description — for the exhibition *Village Architecture in Jordan* which opened at the University Art Museum, University of Southwestern Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana, on March 8, 1986, one month before the text was finally on its way to the printer. Even before I became aware of the lapse which would occur between the opening of the show and the production of *Notes on Village Architecture in Jordan*, I had had the hope that the publication would be able to stand on its own, relatively independent of the exhibition.

The aim of this work is to report a preliminary sketch of Jordan's rural living environments. Included are notes that were taken between January and August, 1985, when I travelled to and lived in the sites presented here, and the impressions that I had been gathering for the preceding ten years. What this work offers is unpolished data, for rapid change is effacing the traditional environment with an alarming swiftness that leaves no time for analogy or for refinement of information. For the time being I feel I am on a rescue mission, at least collecting as many impressions as possible before the real thing disappears.

Besides my early attachment to the Jordanian rural environment in general, having been born and raised in Amman contributed to my desire to explore the countryside. In searching for the Jordan of the last century, I started to see Amman as a collage of playful architecture of eclectic nature. Although it is a pleasant place to live, it does not offer the traditional living environments that once exhibited a more harmonious homogeneity. Viewing the architecture of Amman (as is the case with most modern cities) is like trying to read a paper printed in 20 different languages; the repeated use of stone, admittedly a unifying element in the city's architecture, is like using one colour of ink to print this multi-language paper.

Because I do not believe in isolating architecture as an abstract phenomenon existing for and as a result of itself, I have included in this work as much as I

could see as being part of an integration recorded and perceived through architecture. I included notes that seem to be irrelevant to the subject of this work, not for the sake of diversity, but for scrupulousity and thoroughness. Abstraction, although often done for educational purposes and, unfortunately, practiced in today's architecture, tends to deform the complex, natural phylogeny of regional man-made environments. In this work I report an architecture that is the result of the overlapping of geography, history, archaeology, anthropology, physics, etc. — ingredients that are, except for physics, regional in their nature.

This work also contains a few random observations that are not by any means a representation of a typical, historical, or absolute description of the region during the last century. Presenting the contents of my investigations is like returning from a long field trip with hand and pockets filled with shards and exposing these dusty, unwashed, unexamined remnants to the scrutiny of viewers who might interpret them differently.

The work aims to uncover buried fragments of knowledge that, if seen, were often ignored because of their fragmental quality. To uncover knowledge of practical and poetic value and to add to its colour and brilliance is like plowing and sowing a gray field which, after the rain and sun have done their job, reveals the brilliant green of early wheat sprouts and glazed shards of Mamluk ware.

Ammar Khammash

#### Background

The beginning of this century witnessed great changes in the West. Of all the results of the Industrial Revolution, advanced transportation had the most dramatic effect on lands east of the Mediterranean. Not only did it bring its own products, but it also brought the people who exercised a jurisdiction which, in contrast with the late Ottoman period, was rather strict. It introduced a state of relative stability in the area, a stability that was like rainfall on a desert full of seeds. The result was a boom in construction and a rise in population fostered by the arrival of modern medicine. This construction boom, 1890-1920, was reinforced by the arrival of the



The house of Abu Hani Freyhah in Kufranah (this house no longer exists).

## When sun rays infiltrated and nature provided the noise

Chechens and the Circassians. By 1930, Jordan was spotted with hundreds of living villages, mainly on the mountains and plateaus east of the Jordan Valley, within a linear strip of land 40 kilometres from west to east and 250 kilometres from the Yarmuk River to Wadi Musa. Among all the sites, whether reconstructed or continuous, the most fortunate was the city of Salt which experienced a major transformation from a farming village to a market town, a phenomenon reflected in the type of dwellings that had been introduced to the city by the turn of the century.

Most settlements, if not all of them, appeared or reappeared on old sites that provided nearby water springs, water cisterns that were still functioning, piles of cut stones from old structures, parts of older structures that were usable, arable land and caves that gave shelter while houses were built. All these sites had perfect living conditions. They were environments that resulted in visible architectural achievements which, in case of war, would become targets. Unlike subterranean temporary cave dwellings, any above-ground form of settlement was vulnerable to occasional destruction. Throughout the history of the region caves were the "bulbs" of human existence, while above-ground architecture was like flowers on the mountains which, when eaten by the goats, bloomed again in subsequent springtimes.

In the past, people of Jordan spent thousands of years "researching" by trial and error, the fixed number of materials offered by their environment, an environment within very limited boundaries. These boundaries were not the Jordan Valley on the west and the desert on the east, but the very mountains and valleys that their goats grazed. Stone, mud, wood, water, light, wind and communal manpower were the materials and elements that settlers east of the River Jordan explored and understood comfortably over a very long period of time.

When the site and the traditional local technology of using what the site can offer are combined, they become the architect. The limitations of the site in what it offers and the local technology in how much it allows us to use (or abuse) become the agency which

issues the zoning ordinances, the codes, and the aesthetics of an architecture that is most appropriate on that specific site.

Traditionally people did not create an architecture of unlimited fantasy; the decisions were often not theirs at all, but the environment's. It dictated to them and educated them while they remained humble, looking to their instructor with fear and respect. Fear of its climate that, each year, caused the feeble to fail, and respect of its willingness to give.

Sites were the architecture and the architects; the villages were their works, built by the toil of men and women.

#### Ma'in

##### The site

The western edge of the Balqa plateau rises slightly before it drops steeply into the Jordan Valley, and on one of the highest hills that form this edge sits the village of Ma'in. The land between Ma'in and the northern end of the Dead Sea is extremely rough and composed of a series of small steep valleys running mostly east to west, and strips of cliffs and escarpments. The site of Ma'in has an altitude of 800 metres; 12 kilometres to the west is the Dead Sea at minus 400 metres — a difference in altitude that explains the nature of the land between.

Seven kilometres southwest of the well-known town of Madaba, Ma'in is historically valuable as an area rich in mosaic floors from the fifth century A.D. From the pottery samples gathered from Ma'in, evidence of earlier occupations of the site dates the original site attraction as early as the eighth century B.C.

##### The village

Only small segments of Ma'in's traditional neighbourhoods are still in use. Most of the old houses were demolished or abandoned in the wake of modern construction. In the highest part of the village the first houses were built by the Christian Haddadin family before the end of the 19th century. The rest of Ma'in is composed of mostly new structures that set the direction of growth towards the west. The majority of the population is Muslim from the Awazem

tribe whose present-day family name, Abu-Windi, is derived from one of their important figures. A few new houses are coming up on the way to Madaba, some distance from the village.

On the highest level of the village, foundations for the houses have been dug into the hill so that the buildings rest on rock-beds. The more houses dug, the higher the excavated earth piled up between them. This results in some of the houses having up to half their height underground. One advantage of this situation, other than efficient thermal insulation, which I doubt was an issue for the builders, is easy access to the roof which may be reached by a small ramp, the hammaleh, located at the back of the house.

The hammaleh is wide enough to allow large amounts of grain and hay to be brought to the top of the house and then fed into special storage bins through small openings in the ceiling.

One of the most interesting aspects of the architecture of this village is the use of antiquities. It takes a while to realise that almost every house has parts of old structures used either intentionally in an appropriate way or just treated like any other roughly hewn stone. One wall has the busts of two figures placed in the upper courses. These statues, called by the villagers the "king" and the "queen," are made of marble which was probably imported. Attention is given to the details of the figures' costumes; their heads are missing. In cases where antiquities are used as sills for the doors, it is not only because of their esthetic value, but also because of their length which can span the distance without the need for an arch. If a stone has a relief of a cross (most of these antiquities are of the Byzantine period) it would have been intentionally placed on top of the door. Other crosses were chiseled by the builders when these houses were built. For some reason capitals with elaborate ornamentation did not impress the local "architects." One such capital is used in a wall with its ornamented perimeter embedded and its flat top facing the viewer.

##### Courtyards

The upper neighbourhood is an interesting example of a complex organised around a courtyard.

#### The house

In the courtyard one house, even with its roof partially destroyed, is well kept with all of its interior parts intact. The interior is painted in a bright green that makes it unforgettable. The entrance is a simple rectangle with a square opening above it; these are the only two openings that the house had before part of its roof fell. The front wall, where the door is, has an unusual shape. It gains height towards the middle above the door; thus, instead of being a rectangular elevation as usual, its upper edge takes the shape of an arc reflecting the shape of the two interior arches which support the roof. The interiors of the Ma'in houses may be seen as very similar to those of Hmud. During my stay in Ma'in I often felt the connection between Ma'in and Hmud is most strongly inspired by the similarity of the interiors of the houses in both villages. This notion was ultimately supported when I was told by Abu Josafe Haddadin that he owns land in Hmud. Also supporting the ties between these two villages, even though they are separated by 50 kilometres and the deep Wadi el Mujib, is the fact that they are both Christian.

As in Hmud, the interior of Ma'in's houses are rich in their wheat storage bins. The most obvious similarity is in the large piece of combined bins called, in both Hmud and Ma'in, sandug. "The sandug of a Ma'in house has fewer decorations (abstractions of plant forms); it exhibits, instead, a large botonee cross in relief on the front of the bin. While some interiors have no ornamentation, the placement of the sandug in the house with the green interior creates a unique situation. It is

placed under the second arch of the house. Total separation is achieved by the fact that the sandug has an addition on top of the bins that doubles its height. This addition consists of cabinets for storing woven items and bedding; one of them is called "mit-wa," derived from an Arabic verb that means "to fold." Only one opening large enough to accommodate the human body allows access to the space behind this mud unit; there one experiences a strange space. This 2-metre wide, 10-metre long space is dark and finished with unpainted mud plaster. It provides room for large amounts of hay and for general storage.

In other houses, such as that of Toufig Sleiman Haddadin, lengths of white fabric with lace-work at the bottom are used as curtains to conceal the storage spaces. This house is relatively small but well kept with a proper domestic interior that is still in use. It was built in the 1900s by Toufig's grandfather, Ibrahim Hanna Haddadin.

#### People and economy

Besides the Christian family Haddadin, the Abu Windi family, also known as Al Awazem or Al Awazem, came originally from "Hanada, west of Ma'in." There is also a minority of people of different origin who traditionally lived in the village: the Kiswani family from Bayt Eksa in Palestine.

Their costume was Palestinian; they did not change it. ... I used to carry Awwad to Sabika Al Kiswanih to breast feed him when I got sick. During the Turkish war we learned embroidery ... when I was a young girl I learned from them.

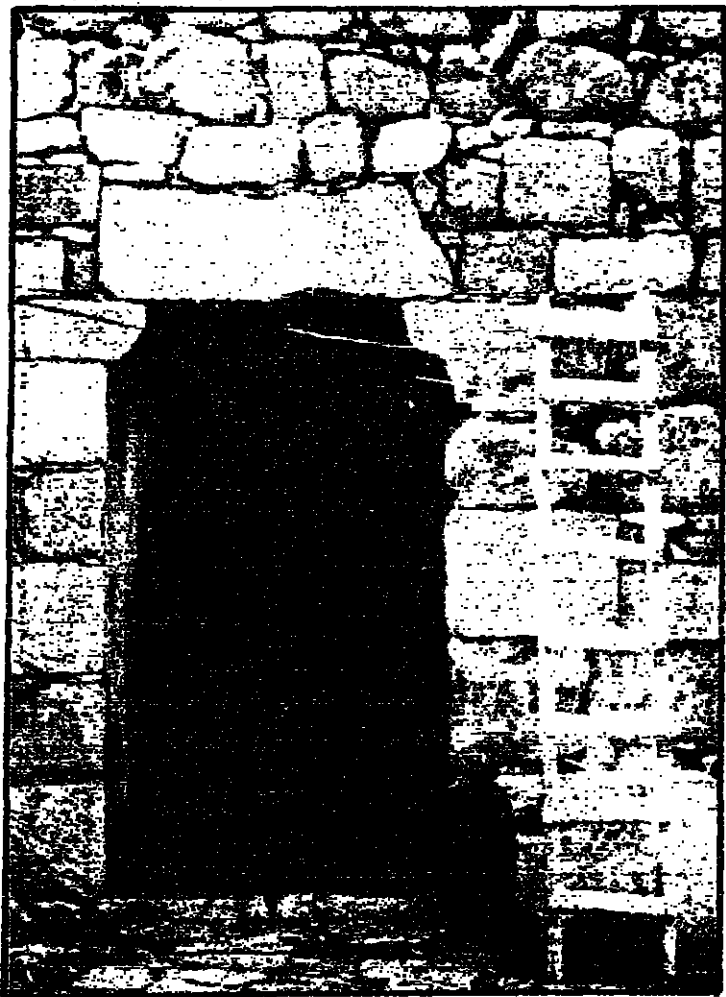
The old ladies of Ma'in, as in many other villages, are often tattooed on their hands and chins. "Gypsy people used to come and do it for us in return for wheat, flour, or money." The men used to have their hair long. "The Arabs used to have braids till the late 1930s. We Christians used to have them also so we were not distinguished."

The inhabitants of Ma'in traded with bigger towns and cities. They sold their sesame silver jewellery in Karak, and they bought the clay for making pottery in Es Salt. Also in Es Salt they bought oakwood bark used to dye leather red. Abu Josafe traded grain for oranges in Palestine.

Agriculture in Ma'in is totally based on dry farming. Crops such as lentil, chick pea, sesame, corn, and other types of grain for animals have been grown in the fertile land around the village. No trees were cultivated until the 1930s, except for some figs and pomegranates that grow near a stream west of Ma'in called Uyyoon Eth-Theeb. Nowadays olive trees and grapevines are found in the fields surrounding the village.

The raising of livestock has contributed to the economy of Ma'in. The families who owned sheep or goats used to leave the village in March looking for green pasture lands. Livestock was a great responsibility. The animals were well cared for, many of the people's activities being determined by the needs of their herds. The herders lived a nomadic life in the spring. They carried water in goat skin containers from the Zerga stream six kilometres south of Ma'in, as it was necessary to water the animals after the underground cisterns had been depleted.

In summer the women of the village would weave their own rugs on ground looms. Weaving was done on the roofs, in the courtyards or in the streets.



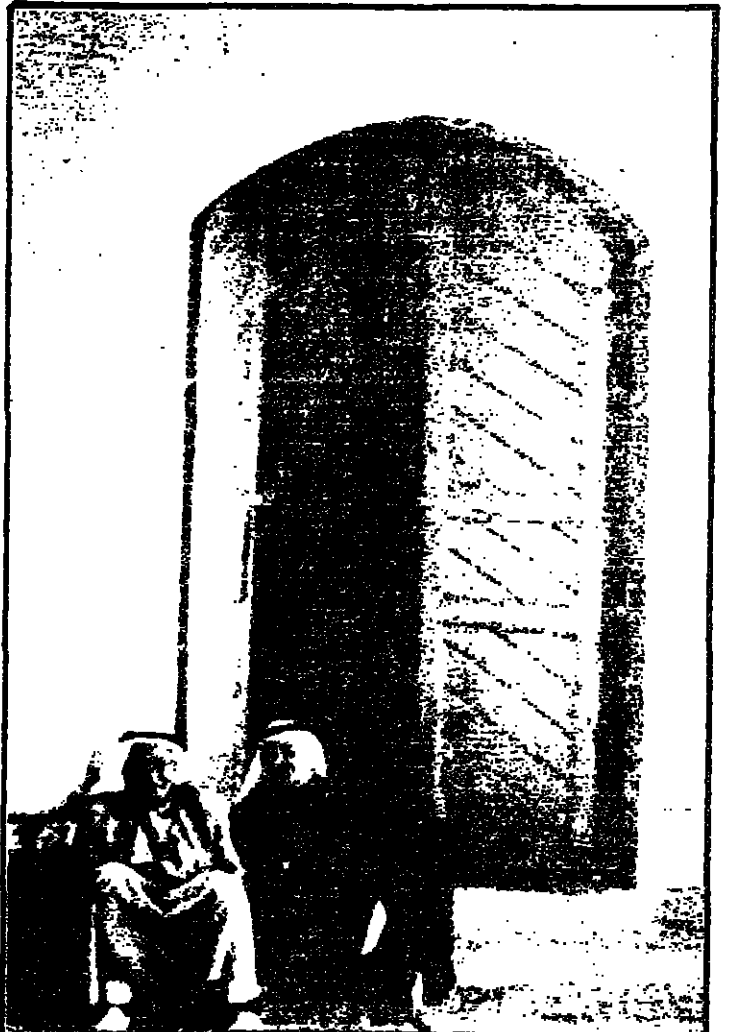
The doorway of the house of Abu Josafe.



Interior of a fellahi house in Khirbet Al Wahadneh.



Statues used in the upper courses of a fellahi house.



Men of Ma'in chat in front of a shop.



## Jordan Times

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## Israel's 'easy' option

ISRAEL's expulsion of eight more Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza is yet another indication of the underlying truth that the Zionist state is turning further away from coming to terms with the reality of the situation in the occupied territories. What is Israel trying to prove? That it has the might and power to identify the leaders of the Palestinian uprising and is exercising the easy option of expelling them? Granted the Israeli army and its tentacles are capable of reaching the Palestinians in any corner of the West Bank or Gaza, the paramount question remains: Will expulsions solve the Zionist state's problems? Unless of course it expels all of the 1.5 million Palestinians living in the occupied territories. Short of that, there is no doubt that new leaders will continue to spring up from the Palestinian ranks and maintain the momentum of the struggle against occupation and advance the quest for liberation.

It is indeed ironic that the Jews, who for thousands of years agonised over the "promised land," cannot understand or appreciate the Palestinian struggle and realise that their major problem is caused by the continued denial to a people of their legitimate national rights in their land. The brutal policies of beatings, shootings and expulsions will only radicalise the position of the new leaders taking over from those expelled.

It is another paradox that Israel, which has been calling for some time now for talks with Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza for realisation of an "autonomous identity" for the occupied territories, is bent on a course that deprives itself of the party with whom it wants to negotiate. One wonders which Palestinians does Israel have in mind when calling for negotiations. The dead, the detained, the disabled, or perhaps, the expelled leaders? Or perhaps, Israel hopes to have its terrorist leaders — Meir Kahane and Ariel Sharon included — represent the Palestinians in the so-called negotiations.

We do not have to remind the international community, the U.S. in particular, of the implications of the latest Israeli move, or that mere words of condemnation of Israeli practices were never enough to dissuade the Zionist state from pursuing its designs in the region. But, we hope that Monday's expulsions, which came in less than a week after the U.S. tried a new hand in its approach to Arab leaders in efforts for peace, should erase the last trace of doubt in the American mind that Israel never wanted just peace nor does it want any now.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Mideast activity

THERE are increasing possibilities that the Middle East region will witness intensified diplomatic activity towards the end of this month including another tour of the region by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and a similar one by the Soviet foreign minister. These moves clearly indicate that the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestine problem are back on the list of priorities for the superpowers and the rest of the world community. It is natural, therefore, to call for concerted efforts on the part of the Arab World, specially as the Arabs now enjoy a great measure of understanding and consensus on dealing with the issues confronting the Arab Nation. There is need for the Arabs to unify their steps and their stands with regard to any of the superpower initiatives for ending the conflict in our region, based on the six-point document which King Hussein handed to the American secretary of state. These call for a total Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories, emphasises the principle of inadmissibility of occupying other territories by force, and the settlement of the Palestine problem. Unless the basic requirements of peace are heeded by Israel there can never be any durable and just settlement in this region.

### Al Dustour: Israel deports Palestinians

THE Israeli authorities, in another show of disregard to U.N. principles and resolutions, have deported eight Arab citizens from their homeland because they were resisting occupation. This move is clearly a violation of human rights and in contradiction of the fourth article of the Geneva Convention. The Israelis who have been continually violating international laws are encouraged in their actions by continued American support and U.S. protection against international condemnation and sanctions. The Israelis are in fact going ahead with more violations relying on their strategic alliance with the United States which does not lift a finger in an attempt to force Israel to desist from committing such acts. We consider such actions which are marked by arrogance as another manifestation of Israel's bankruptcy in quelling the Arab revolt and putting down the uprising that has been raging for the past four months. This deportation policy which in the past failed to achieve any result is being adopted once again by the Zionist rulers as a means for evacuating the Palestinian territory. The deportation coincided with the Arab League's announcement of an emergency summit to be held in Algiers in June, something which indicates Israel's total disregard to the Arab Nation and its decisions and future plans. We condemn this form of terrorist activity and urge the U.N. Security Council members to act promptly and end such Israeli atrocities.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Total support for the King

THE Jordanian document handed to the U.S. secretary of state contained Jordan's firm stand and the Arab Nation's principles for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. This firm stand had been supported by the Palestinian deputies at the Lower House of Parliament who voiced their backing for the King's endeavours and continued efforts to bring about peace and to help the Palestinians regain their rights and their usurped homes. The King's stand was backed by representatives of the masses in Irbid whose municipal councils sent cables to the King displaying total support for the monarch's moves towards peace. In fact the King is acting on the basis of Arab consensus and agreement reached at the Amman Arab summit meeting and exerting efforts worldwide towards ending the Middle East conflict and regaining the rights of the Palestinian people. Indeed the principles contained in the six-point document exactly reflect the spirit and the message of the Arab summit and its resolutions with regard to the establishment of a durable peace.

# The impact of the government spending programme

By Nayef S. Zubi

IN this article, the impact of the specific components of latest government spending programme will be discussed. These components are:

First, a programme for public works that focuses upon building schools, health centres, and government buildings. The programme also calls for supporting moderate and low-income housing. It calls for making available loanable funds to specific economic sectors.

Second, a government spending programme of JD 25 million, of which 60 per cent would essentially underwrite bad investment decisions on the part of the Post Office Savings Fund (POSF), and on the part of Jordan's Fertiliser Industrial Company (JFIC). The other 40 per cent will be directed to pay for land bought from public works.

Third, a programme for restructuring the activities of investment banking and money changers.

Fourth, a programme to attract foreign capital and foreign currency deposits.

Fifth, establishing a reinsurance company.

Sixth, a policy towards floating interest rates.

Seventh, reducing income taxes on revenues from renting houses and cutting water and electricity rates.

### The bail-out of POSF and JFIC

The government intends to bail-out the Post Office Savings Fund (POSF) and the "small investors" in the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company (JFIC) for their depressed investments.

Underwriting bad investment decisions on the part of the POSF and on the part of investors in the JFIC, using the Social Security Fund, is an outright transfer payment. Taking from Tawfiq and giving to Abdulla does not increment wealth, it might destroy the incentive to create it. While the decision might be good politics, it is bad economics. The income effect of this mode of financing will tend to cancel out. The recipient of the bail-out — investors in POSF and JFIC — incremental spending will tend to cancel out with those who are supposed to pay for it — current and future taxpayers.

The argument one hears in some circles that this spending will be paid for, not through taxing or debt or printing money, but through foreign aid, and, as such, has no effect on the incentive structure is fallacious. The economic problem is a choice problem. There is no economic problem if resources are not scarce. The resources the government spends come at the economy's best alternative. One is hard put to believe that bailing out failure and shoring off bad investment decisions is the economy's best alternative. There is always an opportunity cost for any action, and

that opportunity cost is the relevant variable.

The story of a dropout from a business college who inherited a fortune later and donated \$1 million to his alma mater university on the condition that his donation is not to be allocated to the business college budget, well indicates that he deserves to be a business school dropout.

### Payment for earlier land purchases

The other spending programme is paying for land appropriated by the government. There is no point stressing that the landowner should be compensated at the ongoing market price at the time of the transaction. The compensation should also include appropriate return for the period his funds were withheld. This, however, does not address the economics of appropriating such land as a factor of production. That requires knowledge of government projects these lands were intended to serve.

### Public work on schooling, health centres, and government buildings

The government spending on schooling and health centres could positively effect output but with some qualification. Of these qualifications are the following:

a) the government activity does not replace private sector-intended activities. The size of the government in these two areas indicate that this need not be the case;

b) the government is at least as efficient as the private sector — not only the government pays market prices for factors of production and goods and services, it should be as cost-efficient as the private sector;

c) while many would doubt the efficiency of the government spending programme, there are other issues involved in the activities of government in these two areas — public schooling and health centres. Preparing enlightened and healthy citizens is a standard argument that is usually made.

In sum, this government programme would have qualified, positive results.

### Government loan programmes

The impact of providing loans to housing and specialised lending agencies (i.e., the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) and the Cities and Villages Development Bank (CVDB), etc.) also depends on a few factors, to be enumerated below.

First, the different government-supplied credit programmes

# Drawing up the boundaries? The lessons of hate

By Marie Colvin

FOR many Palestinians, Israel's attempt to close the occupied territories on Land Day had an unintentional, but wholly welcome, effect.

"Israel has drawn the borders of the Palestinian independent state," said Mubarak Awad, one of the leaders of the revolt. "We Palestinians always knew it was there, but Israelis could pretend the West Bank and Gaza were part of Israel. Now we both agree they are different lands. The next step for us is to set up a parallel government."

Israel took this unprecedented action in an effort to prevent demonstrations on March 30, which was Land Day, when Palestinians traditionally protest against the seizure of their land by Israel.

For three days, soldiers manned checkpoints along the length of the boundary between Israel proper and the occupied territories to keep West Bank and Gaza residents on their side of the line and journalists out.

But the restrictions did little other than make the job of the media more difficult. On March 30 itself, four Palestinians died and 50 were injured in clashes with soldiers — making it one of the bloodiest days yet in the five months of the uprising.

Violence like this has become commonplace. What made that week's demonstrations so significant was one indisputable fact: Israel has never before had to seal off the occupied territories. For 20 years, Israel has worked to erase the Green Line which separates the West Bank and Gaza from the Israel which existed before the 1967 war. The Green Line does not appear on tourist maps, nor are there road signs or boundary markers.

Most Israelis knew full well how the move would be interpreted by the Palestinians and the outside world. Liberals opposed it as a step towards apartheid, while Jewish settlers in the occupied territories, members of the hardline right who believe in Eretz Israel, or Greater Israel, feared that it was a foolish acceptance that the territories were not part of Israel.

Across the West Bank, there was no sign that the Palestinians were prepared to submit to Israeli pressure. I evaded the ban to visit the village of Aqraba, the city of Nablus and the refugee camp of Balata. In each place people seemed to be preparing for a long siege.

Almost all shops were closed and the roads were empty. But wherever the army was present there was resistance and violence.

On March 31, when Israeli radio was reporting everything quiet on the West Bank, at Halhoul near Hebron, black smoke billowed from tyres burning on the roadside. A teenager ran behind the barricades. A rock smashed through the car window, shattering the glass and hitting me in the face. It was one of dozens of such incidents that day.

It belied the Israeli complaint that journalists create incidents. The boy who threw the stone probably believed he was throwing it at a Jewish settler.

The refugee camp of Balata was quiet on March 30, because it had been under curfew since March 23. The Khaled family were inside for the seventh consecutive day and said they had been allowed out for two hours to get food since the curfew began. Leila Khaled, 30, said the worst part of curfew was the claustrophobia.

"The soldiers shout at us and even shoot in the air if they just see us in the windows," she said. There were fewer protests in the camp these days, she said, because most of the young men were in jail or hiding in the mountains. Her brother Ghassan was one of four Palestinians deported to Lebanon on January 13.

Leila said the camp was short of food but people would be able to last at least a month. "We can live on very little. The Israelis cannot. Unless they can put all the Palestinians in jail they cannot stop the uprising."

The Khaled house shows how Palestinians can survive, even under the total curfew which Israel says is being enforced on 20 villages, towns and camps on the West Bank and in Gaza. Leila's father runs a small shop at the front of the house, shuttered during curfew. But a neighbour waits for an army patrol that passes

every half hour before sneaking in to buy powdered milk for her baby.

In the isolated village of Aqraba it was quiet as well. But the road into town is strewn with stones used as barricades to keep out Israeli soldiers. In the centre, taped to the mosque wall, was a leaflet that read: "The Aqraba council must resign in accordance with the call by the national committee for the uprising."

Members of the council, appointed by Israel, rarely leave home these days. The meeting in the town centre, in the shade of a vine outside the mosque, was held to replace them. It was decided representatives of the main families should control the village's electric generator rather than the council and a discussion was held about how the town would have to start burning wood instead of oil.

Israel has banned deliveries of fuel to the West Bank and Gaza. "We already have a committee to make sure everyone in the village has enough food to eat," said Ghassan Abu Mirshid. "But we can live much easier than the cities and the camps. We can support ourselves."

In Nablus, the largest city on the West Bank and the commercial centre for the area, pharmacies were forced to remain closed. Food trucks were stopped from entering the city and shops that tried to open during the hours set by the national committee for the uprising were forced to shut — The Sunday Times.

## India's prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi talks about his plans to tackle his country's problems in an interview with John Elliott and Geoffrey Owen.

NEW DELHI — Rajiv Gandhi, India's hard pressed prime minister, exudes confidence and enthusiasm. With a personal style which betrays no strain or depression after the political traumas of the past year, he seems determined not to be diverted from his chosen path of reforming India's over-protected and over-regulated economy.

"We are very clear, there is no change in thinking," he declared during an interview in New Delhi's Parliament House. He dismisses last year's problems, which included personal charges of corruption and a revolt by some senior ministers, as "raw politics." But he recognises that another dose of reform and a reaffirmation of policy is needed to pick up the momentum that was dissipated.

Gandhi, 43, retains the openness which impressed people when he suddenly came to power in early November 1984, after Sikh extremists assassinated his mother Indira Gandhi. In the intervening years, he has slipped from the pinnacle on which India and the world put him because he has failed to hold a stable government together and to overcome India's great resistance to change.

### Until the end of 1989

He has until the end of next

year, when a general election is due, to prove himself afresh. In addition to pushing through reforms, he must also tackle two other issues: The growing Sikh violence in the Punjab and the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis, which is tying down at least 45,000 Indian troops on foreign soil.

Gandhi is determined to break through the vested interests which stand in the way of change. He explains that last year's progress was slowed down, not only by political problems, but also by a drought "which really strained us very much and removed any flexibility we had." There was also an expensive Pay Commission award of rises exceeding 20 per cent for government employees and other public sector staff.

Gandhi argues that his industrial liberalisation policies have been vindicated by good growth rates — about 8 per cent in the past year — despite these setbacks. "We are very clear it is because of the policies we had started," he says. But he is not entirely happy about the reaction of businessmen. "The response we are getting is very positive from the middle and small sectors — but the big boys, they are just too heavy."

By Flora Lewis

THE tension and the harshness of vocabulary appear higher than ever in Israel. But that isn't exactly so. It is an impression nourished by the foolish assumption that the status quo could go on indefinitely, that if it didn't heal wounds, time would blunt the urge to violence and restore quiescence.

Israel will celebrate its 40th anniversary next month. There have been five Arab-Israeli wars in that time, and countless exchanges of force and insult. The state was begun in desperate exhilaration, with a sense of noble mission not only for itself but as a font of humane values for the world after the horrors of World War II.

David Ben-Gurion, who took the decision to proclaim independence and became the first prime minister, told me then of his belief that "Israel contains seeds of cultural and spiritual values which, if they flourish, must benefit all peoples."

And he said: "Israel will be a democratic country; it cannot exist at all without a democratic regime, without valuing humanity and freedom, without a sense of responsibility and an awareness of mission..." He could not contemplate his country's future without assuming peace with its neighbours.

In June will come the 21st anniversary of the 1967 war, which was the watershed both within Israel and for its image in the West. It was a frightening time, for there was no assurance

are conceptually no different from buying the items and giving them away. Practically speaking, there difference from an outright loan lies in their implications to government books. Outright loan involves current outlays and future receipts. Loan guarantee programmes involve negligible current outlays, some revenues, and some expected outlays in the future. Interest subsidy programmes involve relatively small current outlays, no future receipts, and some future outlays.

Second, the expansion of these programmes may stimulate economic activity by causing purchases of investment goods such as housing, which would otherwise not occur. But that depends whether these programmes tend to allocate financial capital to the investment projects which have low private rates of return and displace ineligible projects with higher rates of return. Although this might be true in an efficient credit market, and thus lead to negative results regarding capital allocations, the presence of distortion, like discriminatory practices, might render positive value to such programmes. Thus, government actions here might correct for credit market imperfections.

It is important to note that all such programmes have an implicit cost contrary to what might appear as costless interventions by governments in credit markets. That cost goes beyond just reallocation of capital, but involves real cost that could be measured in JD amounts.

### Tax measures and utility rate reductions

Cutting marginal tax rates on income from house rents is a commendable action. It should increment property values. In general, cutting marginal effective tax rates, including the implicit rates, should be one component in any economic recovery programme. Focusing on reducing the government bite of labour and capital income is a rational act towards augmenting wealth.

Utility rate reduction, if it reflects that we are more cost efficient in running utility companies, is a step that should be taken. If the purpose is just to subsidise consumption, then the resources to subsidise this activity should come from somewhere.

Finding the appropriate and "normal" rate of return on capital for utility companies is becoming an issue that received a lot of attention in the realm of business finance. Finding such rates is becoming less ad hoc and more precise. More of a science, I would say. The point I am trying to stress that there is no free lunch in any government subsidy. If cutting rates means subsidising more the consumption of the output of an already financially troubled utility and is not a reflection of lower fuel cost, better technology, etc., then the rate reduction is not a step in the right direction.

that the Jewish state could hold off the heavily armed Arabs and no knowledge that Egypt's Nasser was bluffing. In Cairo, in Amman, huge crowds demonstrated in frenzied anticipation of a victorious war. Ahmed Shukairy, then the Palestinians' leader, preached holy war at the Great Mosque in East Jerusalem the Friday before the war began, promising to "throw the Jews into the sea."

The jubilation at Israel's surprise triumph was boundless, not only within the country but in much of the world. It was tempered with relief and a sense of opportunity for acceptance at last, but within a few months Nasser proclaimed his Three No's — no negotiation, no recognition, no peace. So as time went on, attitudes changed. Israel felt strong, able to dominate, less and less willing to cede "land for peace," which was the essence of U.N. Resolution 242 at the end of the war.

No longer the underdog, its leaders spoke less and less of mission. At the start of the 1980's, it came to offer as a major reason for deserving U.S. support that it was a "strategic bastion." In 1982, Israel launched offensive war against Lebanon. Its main purpose was to devastate the PLO so that Palestinians in the occupied territories would lose hope, paving the way for eventual annexation.

They did lose hope of salvation from outside, but not hatred for their status and the Israelis who maintained it. The festering and grew, and exploded last December when a new generation, most-

ly not born in 1967, began to throw rocks and firebombs on their own.

Secretary of State George Shultz has again taken to hopping courageously around the region, trying to show that something diplomatic is going on, concealing an inevitable frustration. But he hasn't gotten anywhere except to demonstrate the good judgment of Yehoshafat Harkabi, a former Israeli intelligence director who has understood what locusts really mean.

He wrote recently in Ha'aretz: "Israel is a candidate for inclusion in Barbara Tuchman's 'March of Folly' as a country working against its own best interests, a looking-glass world in which political positions that survive are called patriotic. The Arabs are not unaware of this. The main change in the Arabs' attitude towards us — a dangerous change indeed — is that they've ceased to consider Israel a wise country."

"Israel still can, I think, achieve peace, albeit at a steeper price than formerly. But the longer such a settlement is put off, the worse our situation will grow, until we find ourselves facing an absolutely hopeless tangle."

Roles have been reversed now. The leader of Israel is a rejectionist. Tel Aviv's mission is just to dig in, offering nothing. The two sides have learned from each other, the better to hate. The rest is as it was, minus the vision — The New York Times.

pressed several centuries of western-style development, are obviously going to cause rootlessness and trauma.

The problem is caused, says Gandhi, by heavy bureaucratic controls, by decades of shortages and, especially, by a bad education system.

Gandhi does not accept the common criticism that he has too many cabinet reshuffles. He says that major portfolios and senior posts have not been changed too much, except when his hand was forced by people leaving. He says he has tried to give special importance to portfolios like education and health "because the root of economic development is the human being."

He rejects with equal aplomb criticism that he is becoming isolated, consulting few people and making decisions on the basis of short briefing notes. "I cannot my cabinet ministers, but the system doesn't seem happy about that." The appearance of isolation is increased because of the heavy and often stifling security which surrounds him.

But despite all the problems, he strongly rejects the idea that he would like to go back to civilian life where he used to be an airline pilot. "So he is caught up in politics? Yes and no. The yes is that it is a challenge. When you are successful and get things done, it does give you tremendous satisfaction." Financial Times feature

## Gandhi renews his promise of reform

India's prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi talks about his plans to tackle his country's problems in an interview with John Elliott and Geoffrey Owen.

NEW DELHI — Rajiv Gandhi, India's hard pressed prime minister, exudes confidence and enthusiasm. With a personal style which betrays no strain or depression after the political traumas of the past year, he seems determined not to be diverted from his chosen path of reforming India's over-protected and over-regulated economy.

"We are very clear, there is no change in thinking," he declared during an interview in New Delhi's Parliament House. He dismisses last year's problems, which included personal charges of corruption and a revolt by some senior ministers, as "raw politics." But he recognises that another dose of reform and a reaffirmation of policy is needed to pick up the momentum that was dissipated.

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year, when a general election is due, to prove himself afresh. In addition to pushing through reforms, he must also tackle two other issues: The growing Sikh violence in the Punjab and the Sri Lankan ethnic crisis, which is tying down at least 45,000 Indian troops on foreign soil.

Gandhi is determined to break through the vested interests which stand in the way of change. He explains that last year's progress was slowed down, not only by political problems, but also by a drought "which really strained us very much and removed any flexibility we had." There was also an expensive Pay Commission award of rises exceeding 20 per cent for government employees and other public sector staff.

Gandhi argues that his industrial liberalisation policies have been vindicated by good growth rates — about 8 per cent in the past year — despite these setbacks. "We are very clear it is because of the policies we had started," he says. But he is not entirely happy about the reaction of businessmen. "The response we are getting is very positive from the middle and small sectors — but the big boys, they are just too heavy."

He is critical of industrialists for their reluctance to face competition. When they are given licences for a certain line of production, he says, they want assurances of profitability, but "that's their problem. We're not responsible for whether they are successful or not."

The next target is agriculture, which Gandhi says has been identified as a major weakness by the Planning Commission in its recent mid-term review of the country's seventh five-year plan.

Gandhi seems unlikely to be able to have as dramatic an impact on agriculture as he had on industry in his first couple of years. "We need better utilisation of what we have already invested in. Our investment in irrigation is wasted to a very high degree. We have got an obsession for big things."

Reform of the public sector is a central theme. "We can't continue subsidising non-essential areas in the public sector." He wants government intervention to be more flexible, investing in new areas, like biotechnology, and moving out of activities where it is no longer needed. He points to the access which has been provided for the private sector in defence and telecommunications production.

The prime minister acknowledges his lack of success in reducing the public sector. "The

government is such an incredible machine that whenever you ask a question it goes to the department you have been asking about. They have very good answers, as we have all seen on your BBC series (Yes Prime Minister). I have quoted from it in some of my meetings. I've got a 'touche' reply and got the thing done."

"I set up a little group to identify non-essential areas where we are operating. We have managed to reduce them in size, but I must admit we haven't been able to close down anything substantial. But we have reduced the number of posts in government very substantially, by well over 8,000, without trauma, by closing down at the right time."

### Corruption

One of the main criticisms of Gandhi's regime is that corruption has become worse in the past three years, despite his initial emergence as a Mr. Clean devoted to stamping it out. He has constantly denied that he and his family were involved in last year's scandal, which is still rumbling, about bribes and agents' commissions on a \$1.4 billion Bofors gun contract.

But he does not strongly deny from the allegation that corruption in India is worse. Instead he considers the charges. He says that rapid social and economic changes during India's 40 years of independence, which have com-



# Democratic hopefuls wrestle over Mideast policy in bid to please New York Jews

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Democratic Party candidates for the U.S. presidential nomination wrestled Monday with U.S. Middle East policy as they campaigned for votes in the New York State primary nominating election.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis contended that Arab leaders were "responsible" for the turmoil and the violence in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Jesse Jackson, often attacked for what critics call pro-Arab stands, continued to distance himself from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) by saying that allowing extremists at the bargaining table would be a "formula for catastrophe."

Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, who earlier exchanged sharp words with fellow Democrats on the Middle East, took a conciliatory line. He also admitted he has to do well in the April 19 New York primary to continue in the race.

Meanwhile, Republican nominee-apparent George Bush proclaimed his strong support for Israel as a reason for Jews to back his candidacy. "I think everyone should vote for me. Besides that, I'm a good friend of Israel," Bush said.

The U.S. vice president brushed off concerns that the all-but-concluded Republican contest could drop him out of the voters' eyes as the Democrats continue to fight. "We don't have all the excitement that exists on the Democratic side of the aisle, but we have a lot more unity and

fewer problems," he said. With Jews expected to make up nearly one-fourth of the Democratic Party primary voters in New York, Israel and Middle East policy have held the spotlight in the primary campaign with 255 delegates at stake.

## Dukakis blames Arabs

Dukakis went before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organisations in New York to give his first extended discussion of the violence in the West Bank and Gaza.

"It is critically important that the world understand who is responsible for the turmoil and the violence," Dukakis said in his prepared remarks. "It is, regrettably, Arab leaders themselves who have time and again rejected the chance to sit down with Israel and negotiate peace."

"It is not the generation of young Palestinians," Dukakis said. "It is not a government in Israel that struggles to maintain order while seeking an opportunity to negotiate with responsible Arab leaders about the future of the territories."

## Palestinian state

The Massachusetts governor was asked specifically if he would rule out the creation of a Palestinian state as Secretary of State George Shultz had in his latest Middle East mission.

Dukakis replied this was something not for the United States to decide but was a question for

Israel and the Arab states to negotiate. "We (the United States) are not going to impose a *pax Americana* on the Middle East... a solution begins with some form of self-rule and moves from there," Dukakis said.

## Jerusalem

The issue of recognising Jerusalem as Israel's "capital" has to be negotiated, he said, adding it is clear to Israel and Jews everywhere that Jerusalem should always be the capital.

On moving the U.S. embassy, now in Tel Aviv, he said: "I know of no other nation in the world where we don't in effect say to the country, itself, 'we go where you say the capital is'."

Jackson has turned down an invitation to address the conference, but was sent a second one.

At a subsequent news conference, Dukakis stated his position was essentially that of Israel, that this issue like all other pertinent issues should be negotiated directly between Israel and the Arabs.

"There is no question our (U.S.) government has always opposed the creation of an independent Palestinian state," Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organisations, said later. "So that's a question that members will have to judge for themselves... without any question, he did not come out against a Palestinian state."

## Jackson presses anti-Arafat line

On Monday, Jackson distanced himself further from PLO leader Yasser Arafat, with whom he met in the late 1970s. He had said Sunday that the PLO and the Palestinian people are not the same and that he would not meet again with Arafat.

"It would not be a good approach to start at the table with the most extreme elements. That's a formula for catastrophe," Jackson said when asked to expand on his comments on Arafat.

Gore, who had strongly criticised Jackson on Arafat, called that "a very useful statement" and vowed to continue his style of drawing contrasts between himself and Dukakis and Jackson.

On the Middle East issue, Gore repeated his opposition to an independent Palestinian state, saying the peace process should follow the Camp David agreements that foresaw an area carved out for Palestinians with limited autonomy.

In the all-important delegate contest, Dukakis continued to hold a small lead over Jackson. The Associated Press delegate count gave Dukakis 745.05 and Jackson 709.55. Gore trailed with 395.8, while 514.35 were uncommitted. Senator Paul Simon of Illinois, who has suspended his campaign after a string of poor showings, had 171.5.

At the Democratic national convention in Atlanta in July, 2,082 delegate votes are needed to win the nomination.

# King Fahd orders security review

RIYADH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has ordered a top level review of security for this year's pilgrimage to Mecca.

The review was announced just hours after Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini said Monday Tehran would send 150,000 pilgrims on the annual Haj to Saudi Arabia and warned Riyadh against stopping them demonstrating.

Saudi Arabia has already said it will not tolerate demonstrations this year and has announced quotas on pilgrims which would cut the number from Iran by two-thirds to 50,000.

More than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed in clashes during an Iranian-led demonstration in Mecca last July.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said King Fahd ordered the setting up of ministerial sub-committees to "study questions relating to security" following a cabinet meeting late Monday night.

SPA quoted Information Minister Ali Hassan Al Shaer as saying committees would be set up to "ensure the comfort of the pilgrims and to enable them to perform their prayers and duties and to worship with maximum ease and in safety and peace."

Relations between Riyadh and Tehran have been severely strained since last year's clashes in Mecca.

The annual pilgrimage is due to begin in mid-July.

Khomeini's remarks were reported by Tehran Radio Monday which quoted him as saying it was impossible for Iranian pilgrims to go on the annual pilgrimage and not demonstrate against what he termed "world arrogance."

## Velayati visits Doha

DOHA (AP) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati Tuesday visited Qatar on the third leg of a tour of Arab Gulf states that earlier took him to the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

The Qatar News Agency reported his arrival and said he was received by the emir, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, to whom he delivered a message from Iranian President Ali Khamenei. The message dealt with the current developments in the Gulf region and relations between the two countries, the agency said, without elaborating.

# Lawyers protest Israeli detentions, conditions

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli and Palestinian lawyers protested Monday against conditions at an Israeli detention camp for Palestinians and the jailing of three Palestinian lawyers without trial in the last month.

The lawyers said the estimated 3,000 Palestinian detainees at the camp in the Negab desert, dubbed by Palestinians "Ansar III," were deprived of water and denied access to lawyers.

"We have to decide how to operate within a system that is detaining lawyers because they are lawyers. They are not only lawyers, they are also victims," Israeli lawyer Felicia Langer told a news conference.

"We appeal to people of conscience to help Palestinians because they have no protection whatsoever."

A military spokeswoman denied the charge, saying: "There is

no policy of detaining lawyers because they are lawyers. They are detained because they are a threat to security."

Gaza lawyer Mohammad Na'Amneh said families of detainees did not know where they were being held.

He said that of 25 people the lawyers visited in the Negab detention camp, none knew on what legal basis he was being held.

The lawyers said in the past week they had been prevented from visiting clients in the camps. A military spokesman denied this.

Shaher Aruri, a Gaza lawyer recently released from Ansar III,

estimated 3,000 prisoners were being held there without trial. The military spokesman said the number of prisoners was not that high.

Aruri said water was so scarce in the camp that detainees could not wash, and there were no toilets. He said inmates conducted a hunger strike to protest against the conditions.

The three Palestinian lawyers detained are Mohammad Abu Shaaban, of Gaza, held at the Ansar II camp in the Gaza Strip; Raji Sourani, a Gaza lawyer placed in Ansar III two weeks ago after meeting with an Israeli lawyer about Shaaban, and Mohammad Abdul Rahim Shahid, a lawyer from Tulkarem also held at Ansar III.

All three were held under a military law allowing a regional commander to detain any Arab resident of the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip for six months without trial.

# Hamadi denies kidnap role; defence seeks acquittal

DUESSELDORF (AP) — Alleged Lebanese kidnapper Abbas Hamadi Tuesday denied involvement in the abduction of two West Germans in Beirut, and his defence attorneys asked the court to find him innocent of the charges.

Hamadi is accused of kidnapping the two West Germans in an alleged attempt to force the West German government to release his brother, suspected TWA hijacker Mohammad Hamadi.

"I had no direct or indirect involvement in the kidnappings," Abbas Hamadi told the five-judge panel after his attorneys concluded their final arguments in the case.

He also accused West German federal police of violating his rights during questioning and threatening him and other family members.

Before Hamadi's statement, defence counsel Ludwig Hoeller told the court that the defendant did not contest explosives charges against him and recommended that he be sentenced to one year in prison.

But Hoeller said Hamadi should be released because he had already served more than a year in investigative custody. Earlier, chief defence counsel

Eckart Hild asked the court to find Hamadi innocent on charges that he helped kidnap West German businessmen Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt in Beirut in 1987.

Cordes was seized at Beirut airport Jan. 17, 1987 and Schmidt was abducted from his Beirut hotel room three days later.

"The prosecution has failed to produce evidence that the defendant was involved in these crimes," Hild said.

"Much of the evidence against my client is based on testimony from witnesses of dubious credibility, on hearsay, and on interrogations that were conducted improperly," Hild said.

Prosecutors last week asked for a prison sentence of 11½ years on the kidnapping, coercion and explosives charges.

Federal prosecutor Karl-Heinz Schnarr accused the defendant of "gross and brutal inhumanity" in connection with the kidnappings. Schnarr said evidence, including wiretaps and fingerprints, proved conclusively that Abbas Hamadi was involved in the kidnapping of the West Germans.

The prosecutor admitted that evidence did not link Abbas Hamadi directly to the gunmen who abducted the Germans.

# Levy-Sharon race in offing

TEL AVIV — The future direction of the Arab-Israeli peace process may rest with the two archrivals for the Likud bloc's leadership — Ariel Sharon and David Levy.

Deputy Prime Minister and Housing Minister Levy was a key architect in the Likud bloc's electoral victories in 1977 and 1981 by mobilising Israeli Sephardi (Oriental Jewish) underclass behind the Likud. He became the first grassroots Sephardi powerbroker in the history of the state.

In the past, Levy has championed negotiations over the future of the occupied territories. He lost a lot of political ground, however, to Sharon at last year's convention of the Herut Party, the largest component of the Likud bloc.

Leading U.S. administration figures have speculated lately that Sharon might be a better future to deal with than the more moderate Labour Party leadership, which shares power with Likud in the national unity government, because he would have more political freedom to manoeuvre and has proven adept at tactical political shifts in his positions.

# Israeli troops wound over 40 Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

In a letter to Shamir, settlers' leaders demanded the expulsion of two prominent Palestinians, deposed Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe and Hanna Simora, editor of the Arab Jerusalem daily Al Fajr.

Soldiers firing marbles, rubber bullets and tear-gas fought demonstrators in Nuseirat, Sha'ti

and throughout Gaza City. Time magazine photographer David Rumberger was hit by a rubber bullet in Jabalya but not seriously hurt, witnesses said.

Stone-throwers shattered the windshield of the car of Reuter photographer Spiros Mantzalis and broke all the windows in an Associated Press photographer's car.

In the Nuseirat and Deir Al

Balah camps, residents said soldiers circulated leaflets warning that homes of stone-throwers or petrol bomb-throwers would be destroyed. An army spokesman denied the report, saying there was no policy of destroying the homes of stone-throwers.

About 100 women protested against the expulsion of Palestinians in front of the International Red Cross in Arab Jerusalem.

# Iraq says attack foiled

(Continued from page 1)

combat missions against Iranian troops Monday — the sort of high level of activity usually reported during Iranian cross-border offensives.

## Iraq reaffirms stand

Iraq has confirmed its readiness to implement a U.N. ceasefire resolution once Iran announces its clear-cut acceptance of the nine-month-old Security Council decision, Iraq's deputy foreign minister said Monday.

"As you well know, Iran to this date has not made an official, documented acceptance of this resolution," the official, Wissam Zahawie, told reporters after a meeting at the U.N. with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on prospects for halting the Iran-Iraq war.

"I have reaffirmed to the secretary general Iraq's acceptance of Resolution 598," he said, noting Baghdad first announced this shortly after the ceasefire call was issued by the council last July.

Zahawie also said he gave Perez de Cuellar a letter from Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

It confirmed Baghdad's "readiness to implement Resolution 598 in good faith, as it was adopted by the Security Council, and our readiness to sit and negotiate with the Iranians under the auspices of the secretary general, once the Security Council obtains Iran's unequivocal, clear-cut, official acceptance of the resolution."

# Municipal, village leaders praise national stand

(Continued from page 1)

rights at the international domain, the cables said and pledged support for His Majesty's efforts and to really behind his leadership.

The Greater Amman Municipality also sent a cable to King Hussein expressing pride in Jordan's principled stand towards the Palestine question and pledged loyalty to the King.

## PNC speaker lauds Jordan

Palestinian National Council (PNC) Speaker Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh also praised the King's stand towards the Palestine question.

In a statement to Al Ra'i Sayeh voiced appreciation of the stand and expressed support for the six-point document delivered to Shultz.

"We bless these steps as constructive steps taken by His

## Majesty King Hussein," Sayeh told Al Ra'i.

Sayeh also called for holding an emergency Arab summit — proposed to be held in June — at an earlier date to enable Arab leaders to tackle the issues warranted by the Palestinian uprising and channel the appropriate financial and moral support for it. Sayeh voiced hope that the summit would come up with a united Arab stand to support the uprising.

# Arafat denies being asked to recognise Israel

(Continued from page 1)

for Arafat Saturday: "Recognition of the state of Israel, consideration of its security interests — the solution of this question is a necessary element for the establishment of peace and good-neighbourliness in the region based on the principles of international law."

TASS also quoted Gorbachev as saying: "The Palestinian people have the right to self-determination in the same measure as it is ensured for the people of Israel."

Analysts said Moscow apparently wished to be seen as a moderating powerbroker — pressing the PLO to make concessions while continuing its firm support for Palestinian self-determination.


Moscow acknowledged Israel as a state at its creation four decades ago and, despite the later break of diplomatic ties, continues to support U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 implying recognition of Israel.

Diplomats were sceptical that

the Soviet move would bring any concrete concession from the PLO.

The PLO says it can only accept Resolution 242 in a package with all other U.N. resolutions, some of which call for an independent Palestinian state.

"It's quite clear that something should be offered by Israel and something by the PLO," Yasser Arafat said, who is responsible for PLO information and accompanied Arafat to Moscow, told Reuters in Tunis.



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## IMF agrees to cushion debtors against rises in interest rates

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has agreed to set up a pool of funds to protect developing countries against unexpected surges in interest rates, a senior U.S. Treasury official said Monday.

Countries would also be able to borrow from the fund if their export revenues fell short of target or the cost of imports shot up unexpectedly.

The proposal was negotiated by IMF delegates ahead of Thursday's semi-annual meeting of the fund's policy-making Interim Committee, which is likely to give its seal of approval.

"The deal has basically been cut," the official, who briefed reporters on condition that he not be named, said.

The new pool of money is an extension of the fund's existing compensatory financing facility, but differs from it in three important ways.

It will entitle heavily indebted countries — such as Brazil and Argentina — to borrow more from the IMF.

It will compensate them for current shortfalls in income, not past falls as in now the case, and add interest-rate increases to the list of external shocks that the facility is designed to cushion.

## French agriculture minister advocates bridging gap between rich, poor states

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States, Western Europe and other big grain producers should create a fund that would help develop farming in the Third World, French Agriculture Minister Francois Guillaume says.

Guillaume says such a plan would help narrow the growing gap between rich and poor countries. Guillaume spoke Monday at an open meeting with American officials and farm experts.

"Public opinion cannot understand that politicians in the developed countries are unable to put the grains stored in American and European silos in the stomachs of men and women in

## West likely to adopt gold, commodities as markers to stabilise exchange rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government indicated Monday that the world's top industrial countries were near agreement on a proposal to use the price of gold and other commodities in the international coordination of exchange rates.

The proposal was first advanced by Treasury Secretary James Baker last September when it caught world financial leaders by surprise.

It resurfaced as delegates to the 151-nation International Monetary Fund and the World Bank began five days of high-level meetings Monday with exchange rates, trade issues and Third World debt dominating the

The cornerstone of Baker's approach is to hold out the reward of increased loans and investment flows to countries willing to undertake the same kind of market-oriented economic reforms that have characterised the Reagan administration.

If countries fail to scale back the public sector and open up their markets to more competition, loans should be withheld.

Baker has become concerned, however, that countries were being deterred from pursuing IMF-sponsored reforms by events essentially beyond their control.

For instance, Argentina's trade surplus last year of \$800 million was more than \$1 billion smaller than expected because of low world commodity prices and floods that damaged the country's grain crops.

As a result, Argentina had to renegotiate the terms of its IMF programme twice, a complex and time-consuming process that was fraught with political difficulties.

In an effort to make the fund's rules more responsive to the needs of debtor countries, delegates are also expected this week to consider extending the maximum length of loan programmes to four years from three.



Planning Minister Taher Kanaana (centre) and British Ambassador Anthony Reeve (left) sign loan documents (Petra photo)

## Jordan signs for £300,000 U.K. loan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan and Britain Tuesday signed documents for a £300,000 loan from the United Kingdom to help the Jordanian government purchase equipment for the Health and Occupational Safety Institute run by the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC).

The £300,000 sum is part of a £15 million loan promised to Jordan late last year.

Planning Minister Taher Kanaana and British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve signed

and exchanged the documents in the presence of Ministry of Planning and British embassy officials.

Before the signing ceremony, Kanaana and the British ambassador held a meeting to review bilateral cooperation and means of benefiting from the balance of the British loan in financing Jordan's 1986-1990 five-year development plan.

In January, Jordan and Britain signed and exchanged memoran-

da under which Britain will provide a £5 million loan to help finance a number of projects included in the five-year development plan.

In November last year, the two sides signed a document on a £3.229 million loan to help purchase computers for training students at 200 secondary schools, operated by the Ministry of Education.

Both loans are also part of the £15 million loan.

## Jordan limits truck, tanker loads

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Economic Security Committee Tuesday issued a resolution defining the maximum axial weights for all lorries, including fuel tanker trucks, as well as facilities for land transport companies and truck owners. The resolution stipulated fines for violations.

The resolution states the following:

**FIRST**  
A) Maximum axial weights and vehicles together:

1- A lorry with semi-trailer of six axis and load — 76 tonnes;  
2- Truck with semi-trailer, with two axis for the head and three for the trailer — 66 tonnes;

3- Truck with semi-trailer with five axis — 65 tonnes;

4- Truck with semi-trailer with four axis — 55 tonnes;

5- Truck with semi-trailer with three axis — 35 tonnes;

6- Truck with semi trailer with five axis — 63 tonnes;

7- Truck with three axis and a trailer with three axis — 73 tonnes;

8- Truck with two axis with a trailer with two axis — 51 tonnes;

9- Truck with three axis — 40 tonnes;

10- Truck with two axis — 27 tonnes.

B) Truck owners will be given until Dec. 31, 1988 to abide by the resolutions;

C) Trucks of all kinds will be banned from travelling on Jordanian roads as of Jan. 1, 1989 if they were found to be of additional axial weights;

D) All land transport companies and owners of trucks should abide by instructions provided for in the 1983 regulations on roads number 36 as of Jan. 1, 1991.

**SECOND: Violations and fines.**

A) All land transport companies will be responsible for abiding by the regulations while transporting goods within the

Kingdom and or between Jordan and other countries. The driver of the vehicle will be equally responsible in implementing the regulations and liable to equal fines;

B) Fines will be enacted according to the following:

1- JD 10 for every additional tonne;

2- JD 5 for every additional tonne of fuel from the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company

**THIRD: Facilities and incentives:**

A) Jordanians owning trucks with non-Jordanian licence plates issued before April 16, 1988 can clear them at the Customs Department from now until Dec. 31, 1988 and can pay custom fees, other taxes and registration fees over a period of three years against a guarantee document;

B) Non-Jordanian trucks at the free zones in Jordan before April 16, 1988 can be allowed to have temporary Jordanian licence plates against a bi-annual fee of JD 600 in addition to registration fees;

C) Trucks have to abide by regulations to be set by the minister of interior about installing additional axis for their respective semi-trailers according to technical conditions.

**FOURTH:** Following up the implementation of regulations.

A) The minister of finance will be authorised to charge and collect fees for the Jordanian treasury in accordance with the regulations which are backed by cabinet decisions number 90 of 1985;

B) The Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the ministries of finance and public works and housing as well as the Jordanian Ports Corporation, will make arrangements for imposing fines on violators;

C) The Ministry of Public Works and Housing will arrange for the installation of balancing machines at border posts;

D) All centres of production and loading will be charged with installing balancing machines at their own expense;

E) Customs authorities and Public Security Department branches will be charged with controlling axial weights according to the regulations;

F) The minister of interior will issue instructions and specifications related to the contents and capacity of fuel tanker trucks.

These resolutions will go into effect as of April 16, 1988.

According to the committee the minister of transport and telecommunications will hold a press conference Wednesday to expound the resolutions and explain their objectives.

## Muscovites get first bite of real American pizza

MOSCOW (R) — American pizza went on sale in Moscow Tuesday from a van parked on the Lenin Hills dominating the city and the first Russians to try a slice had a unanimous verdict: "Delicious".

Selling for 1.25 roubles (\$2) a slice, the tomato and cheese pizza was approving comments from a number of brides on traditional

post-wedding excursions to Lenin Hills.

"It's completely different from Soviet pizza — it's really good," one young woman commented.

Soviet pizza usually consists of a timed tomato floating in unspiced sauce with ingredients striking the pizza habitue as strange — chicken, for example.

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Tuesday April 12, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	291689	JD 282948	442
Top three companies:			
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries Co.	72900	JD 98525	132
Jordan Rockwool	40750	JD 22773	58
Jordan Cement Factories	17090	JD 17664	16
Parallel market:	81757	JD 31765	—
Development bonds:	896	JD 9316	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.8530/40	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2390/2400	Canadian dollar
	1.6838/43	Deutsche marks
	1.8900/10	Dutch guilders
	1.3943/55	Swiss francs
	35.24/29	Belgian francs
	5.7120/50	French francs
	1249/1250	Italian lire
	126.40/50	Japanese yen
	5.9310/60	Swedish crowns
	6.2820/70	Norwegian crowns
	6.4470/4520	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	450.50/451.00	U.S. dollars

## WORLD STOCKMARKETS

SYDNEY — Shares closed lower after light profit-taking in low turnover. The energy sector was one of the few to escape the downward pressure. The All Ordinaries index fell 6.1 points to 1,447.7.

TOKYO — Prices closed mixed due to caution ahead of the group of seven meeting and release of U.S. trade data. The Nikkei index rose 5.97 points to 26,930.84.

HONG KONG — Prices closed slightly lower on light profit-taking as the market consolidated its recent gains. The Hang Seng index fell 15.07 to 2,635.94.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed narrowly mixed after sporadic profit-taking alternating with selected speculative buying interest. The Straits Times Industrial Index fell 0.37 to 946.11.

BOMBAY — Heavy institutional buying stopped a slide in share prices and helped them recover in brisk trading. Tata Steel rose 10 rupees to 673.75.

FRANKFURT — Shares could not add to Monday's gains. The market closed mixed but with a firmer bias as fresh orders failed to materialise after a positive opening. The Commerzbank Index, set at mid-session, rose 16.6 to 1,423.8.

ZURICH — Prices closed steady in moderate turnover, with the market hardly reacting to the firm dollar and positive trend on Wall Street. The All-Share Swiss Index was down 2.4 at 834.2.

LONDON — Prices drifted to their lows in quiet afternoon trading, with early gains wiped out as Wall Street failed to make headway at the opening. At 1443 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down one point at 1,809.5.

NEW YORK — Stocks were narrowly mixed in early trading. The Dow was unchanged at 2,096.

## Minister inspects operations at pharmaceutical company

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Industry Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa Tuesday visited the Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company in Salt and was briefed on the types of medicines produced by its plants.

Tabbaa said in a statement later that the government will continue to support and assist local industries and remove all obstacles impeding their progress.

The government is also keen on facilitating the marketing of Jordanian products abroad and finding new markets for national products, the minister said.

He added that sales of Jordan's pharmaceutical products have been considerable in volume and helped to support the national balance of payment.

The minister also spoke about incentives and exemptions from local taxes as provided for in the Jordanian laws, and said that the government contemplates the idea of setting up industrial estates in Irbid and Ajlun similar to the Sahab Industrial City near Amman.

The director of the company spoke at the meeting explaining the company's programmes.

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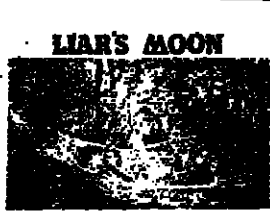
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Zia denies arms were meant for Afghan rebels

## Pakistanis criticise army after arms dump blast

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistanis angrily questioned armed forces safety precautions Monday after explosions at a weapons dump bombed Islamabad and Rawalpindi with missiles and killed 93 people.

Grief-stricken men and women in the adjacent twin cities searched for missing relatives in bomb-cratered streets where pedestrians had limbs blown off in a hail of shells and rockets Sunday.

Markets closed in major towns at the start of three days of national mourning and doctors set up emergency relief camps near blackened and shell-shattered buildings.

Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq told a news conference the disaster was an extraordinary accident. He dismissed press speculation that it was the work of saboteurs.

Echoing a widely-heard opinion, the respected Muslim newspaper said the government had much to answer for, adding in an editorial:

"The first and most fundamental question is why an ammunition dump was situated in a heavily-populated area between the twin cities, which is

also an intersection for heavy commuter traffic."

The Frontier Post, asking the same question, called the carnage a "do-it-yourself disaster" that far exceeded damage done by booby-trap bombs that have gone off in recent years in northern areas near Afghanistan.

Opposition politicians and trade union leaders demanded the government move all arms depots away from populated areas.

Afghan President Najibullah sent a message of "deep grief and sorrow" to Zia and called the explosions at Ojri Army Camp a tragic accident, official Kabul Radio, monitored here, said.

Zia, who cut short a visit to Kuwait early Monday after being informed of the disaster, told reporters several people including an army major were missing and believed wounded.

Ninety-three people had been killed and about 1,100 injured, of whom 60 per cent had been dis-

charged after treatment in hospital, Zia said.

Mere speculation

An inquiry ordered by Prime Minister Muhammad Khan Junejo would show what caused the explosion, he said.

He described as mere speculation suggestions that arms stored at Ojri could have been meant for Afghan anti-Communist guerrillas fighting the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

"It is nothing but speculation, mere conjecture," he said when asked about a report in the British newspaper The Times that the blast might have been caused by people trying to stop arms supplies to the Muslim Mujahideen guerrillas.

The main Afghan guerrilla parties are based in Pakistan, which is also host to three million Afghan refugees from the nine-year-old war in their country.

Pakistani authorities have accused agents of the Kabul government of planting bombs in Pakistan. Kabul denies the charges.

Hospital doctors said news reports that more than 300 people had been killed were false. Initially there was confusion about the number of casualties because of the extent of the bombardment.

Missiles flew up to 15 kilometres from the camp which lies between Islamabad and Rawalpindi, cities with a combined population of one million.

Zia declined to describe the type of armaments which went off in Sunday's explosion.

The United States is one of the main armours of Afghan guerrillas and it funnels weapons through Pakistan. The arms have included artillery, anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

A retired army officer said he saw U.S.-supplied 3.7-inch and 56mm rockets and recoilless rifle shells among the thousands of projectiles that showered out of the camp, 10 kilometres from the centre of Islamabad.

Zia said the authorities had received reports of more than 6,500 missiles scattered in the area of which 5,910 had been cleared by bomb disposal teams.

Four U.S. Navy bomb disposal experts who flew in to help disarm the unexploded munitions started work Monday, a U.S. embassy spokesman said.

## Chinese parliament chooses new government

PEKING (R) — China's parliament Tuesday elected a new government that diplomats said would continue the reforms pursued by Deng Xiaoping since 1979.

Almost 2,900 delegates to the National People's Congress finished voting for the Communist Party's hand-picked candidates in less than 20 minutes by secret ballot in the Great Hall of the People.

They had the choice of approving, opposing or abstaining for the one candidate per post.

"There were no surprises," said an Asian diplomat. "All the names were leaked in advance. The new government represents continuity of the reform policies of Deng Xiaoping."

The State Council, China's cabinet, includes 10 new faces among the 41 ministers, with new ministers of defence and foreign affairs and a new head of the central bank.

The government line-up contains 41 departments, a reduction of four, as China attempts to streamline its overstuffed and inefficient bureaucracy.

The congress also approved overwhelmingly two amendments to the constitution, giving legal protection for the first time to the private sector "as a complement to the socialist public economy" and allowing for the transfer of land-use rights.

A Western diplomat said private businesspeople, who face extortion from officials and resentment from the public for the profits they make, needed legal guarantees.

The New China News Agency said that, at the end of last year, the country had more than 13.5 million private businesses employing 21.5 million people and accounting for nearly 13 per cent of total retail sales.

The Asian diplomat praised the choice of Qian Qichen, 60, as foreign minister.

"He was the best candidate, well known to the diplomatic community and with experience at the United Nations and in negotiating with the Soviet Union," he said.

He said the new defence chief, Qiu Qiwai, 73 and a veteran soldier, faced a hard job in dealing with many elements within the armed forces unhappy with the military's falling share of the national budget.

## World religious, political leaders confer on human survival

OXFORD, England (AP) — Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie told a gathering of the world's religious leaders and lawmakers Monday, "It is not just human survival, but the whole earth which is in some evident peril."

The archbishop, spiritual head of the state Church of England and leader of 70 million Anglicans worldwide, told the conference, which is debating global crises, "We are confronted by problems which transcend national and credal boundaries, which are urgent and potentially terminal, and which require not less than a global solution."

"We live in a world society which desperately seeks some measure of world community in order to survive."

In an apparent reference to the plight of hostages in the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner in Cyprus, Runcie said one crisis that had to be solved was the "terrorism which fuels and feeds on global communication."

Runcie took part in the opening of the five-day Global Conference of Spiritual and Parliamentary Leaders on Human Survival.

China pulls out

Earlier Monday, the organisers said China pulled out of the meeting, expressing displeasure at the attendance of the Dalai Lama.

The conference is a gathering of the leaders of the world's major religions and elected lawmakers aimed at putting their influence to work on solving the world's most pressing dilemmas, like nuclear war, over-population and poverty.

In a message of good wishes to the conference, India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said, "Those who guide the destinies of spiritual affairs and those who forge the destinies of nations must share the same vision for the betterment of humanity."

About the arrival of the Chinese, the Very Reverend James Parks Morton, a co-chairman of the conference, said: "We worked hard to get the Chinese here because we are discussing issues of great concern to them, like population growth."

Morton, dean of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, said the Peking leaders of the world's most

populous nation had earlier shown willingness to attend the conference.

"But although we had no formal complaint from the Chinese government about the attendance of the Dalai Lama, we did get a letter from one of their bigwigs saying they were not coming because he was here," Morton said.

Akio Matsushima, a Japanese living in New York who organised the conference in the university city of Oxford, visited Peking to invite the Chinese to take part.

"We are disappointed that they aren't coming, but we will communicate closely with them with a view to involving them in our future activities," Morton said in an interview.

The Dalai Lama, spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism, fled to exile in India in 1959 after China invaded his country and he has criticised China's policies there.

But while he has made clear on his 12-day visit to Britain that he won't accept a Chinese offer to return providing he accepts Chinese rule, he reiterated his commitment to patient negotiations with China.

## U.S. admits link with Panama spy

PANAMA CITY (Agencies) — The U.S. military Monday admitted links with a self-described Panamanian spy but denied he had instructions to sabotage the Panama Canal.

A spokesman for the Panama-based U.S. Southern Command, Washington's regional military headquarters, said Fabian Orlando Wallis was a volunteer who provided low-level information on the Panamanian Defence Forces.

Wallis, arrested by Panama's G-2 military intelligence office Saturday, told a news conference Sunday he was recruited by the U.S. military to sabotage the Panama Canal to provide the pretext for possible military intervention by the United States.

The charge followed repeated claims by the Panamanian government that Washington is preparing to invade the country to oust military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The Southern Command spokesman, who asked not to be identified, said the allegations were "for the most part untrue."

But he added: "Wallis was a volunteer who provided very low-level insensitive information."

He denied Wallis's claim that he had been ordered to form a

30-person guerrilla group to carry out sabotage on the canal.

The spokesman declined to give more details on the relationship between U.S. military and Wallis, an unemployed waiter who said he fought with the U.S.-backed Nicaraguan contra rebels in 1982-83.

Wallis said he was picked up on his way to check reports that Cuban advisers were training Panamanian troops at a base in western Panama. He was still in G-2 custody Monday.

Under the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties the United States has the right to intervene in Panama militarily if it perceives the strategic waterway is threatened.

As the United States kept up pressure on Noriega to quit, Panamanians staged more protests against the 50-year-old general.

'Pineapple face' must go

Teachers angry at lack of pay and a month-long school closure demonstrated outside the education ministry demanding payment in cash from the virtually bankrupt government, which has been hard-hit by U.S. economic sanctions imposed to force Noriega to step down.

The teachers shouted anti-

Noriega slogans for several hours before dispersing without incident.

"Pineapple face, you must go," they cried repeatedly in reference to Noriega's jowly, pock-marked face. Police watched from a distance but did not interfere.

Confusion

Hundreds of American businessmen, meanwhile, were trying to grasp new U.S. sanctions that, applied literally, could force them to quit doing business in Panama and cost the already bankrupt nation millions of dollars.

Fred Denton, executive director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Panama City, said he had received numerous calls from representatives of U.S. firms inquiring about how the sanctions would be applied.

"If we take this to the letter of the law, I wouldn't be able to buy a Panamanian postage stamp," Denton said. "We're in a complete state of confusion. Nobody knows the interpretation of it yet."

U.S. President Ronald Reagan last Friday invoked a sweeping economic sanctions law against Panama in a renewed effort to force Noriega's ouster.

## Prince Charles' 'problem'

LONDON (AP) — A leading member of the governing Conservative Party has criticised Prince Charles' outspokenness on social issues, saying the 39-year-old future monarch's "problem" was that he's never been allowed to take responsibility for anything.

Former party chairman Norman Tebbit, who is seen as a potential successor to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, said the prince sympathises with the jobless, for example, because "in a way he's got no job."

Tebbit made the remarks during a British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) documentary called "Charles, Prince of Conscience," broadcast Monday, which outlined the controversy surrounding the prince's forthright comments and his reported reluctance to find satisfaction in a life of protocol and polo. The monarch is constitutionally barred from political involvement, but other members of the royal family traditionally refrain from commenting on politically sensitive topics.

"I suppose the Prince of Wales naturally feels extra sympathy towards those who've got no job," Tebbit said, "because in a way he's got no job and he's prohibited from having a job until he inherits the throne." Although approaching middle age, Prince Charles has "not been able to take responsibility and authority for anything," he said. "I think that is really his problem."

Embarrassing

'pedophiles'

MANILA (R) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said Tuesday he was embarrassed by the sexual behaviour of some Australians in the Philippines.

"As far as I am concerned, I feel quite embarrassed by the behaviour of some people who have reportedly been engaged in recreational prostitution... pedophiles," he told reporters.

"That is rather awful publicity for Australia," he said. Hayden is on a two-day visit to Manila, during which he met with President Corason Aquino. More than 20 foreigners, including some Australians, were arrested in February on suspicion they were sexually abusing Filipino children.

## Military vows to repel threats to Aquino

MANILA (R) — The Philippines' top military leaders met President Corason Aquino Tuesday and pledged to defend her government while she is away for a four-day visit to China and Hong Kong.

Aquino summoned Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa and the commanders of the air force, navy, army and the constabulary as she prepared to leave Thursday for her first foreign trip in 18 months.

Fears have been widely expressed here that army rebels might launch a coup attempt in her absence.

The fears were sparked by the April 2 escape from a prison ship of rebel Colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, who, in a published interview Tuesday, justified army rule in the Philippines

if it would restore "morality" in government.

Honasan almost toppled Aquino in a bloody coup attempt last Aug. 28.

"The armed forces... are prepared for any contingencies that may develop. We will be able to maintain the security of our people and our country," de Villa told reporters after the meeting with Aquino.

Army Chief Major-General Mariano Adaleme announced troops would be on "100 per cent" combat alert in Aquino's absence.

The military has also mobilised an anti-terrorist brigade of more than 2,000 soldiers to protect Manila from attacks by rightist and leftist rebels. Five helicopter gunships are on standby in the capital.

### WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

#### Qadhafi pledges support for IRA

LONDON (AP) — Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi pledged his support for the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) cause against Britain in a television interview broadcast Monday. Speaking from a tent in the grounds of his home in Tripoli, Qadhafi told Channel 4 News: "We believe the cause of Ireland is a just cause and we support this just cause because we believe Ireland is Ireland and Britain is Britain." He said the British presence in the north of Ireland was a form of "colonisation" and added: "This we will fight, to get rid of colonisation. It is a just fight and we will support it."

#### Li says no semi-independent Tibet

PEKING (R) — China will not permit an independent or "semi-independent" Tibet, top government adviser and former president Li Xianxian said Monday. The official New China News Agency quoted him as saying "the central government and entire Chinese people will by no means allow the so-called independence or 'semi-independence' of Tibet, advocated by the (Tibetan spiritual leader) Dalai Lama. We respect the cultural tradition of Tibet and the habits and customs of the Tibetan people, but we will never tolerate Tibet being separated from China," he said.

#### De Mita says he is ready

ROME (R) — Italian Prime Minister-Designate Ciriaco De Mita says he is ready to form Italy's 48th postwar government, just one month after the same five-party coalition fell apart in bitterness and disarray. De Mita, leader of the dominant Christian Democrats for the past six years, said Monday he had won support for a new government programme from the leaders of the Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals. "We have reached a comprehensive agreement," he told journalists after a final three-hour meeting with his prospective partners. But he said he would wait for the executive committees of the parties including his own Christian Democrats to ratify the agreement Tuesday before formally accepting the premiership.

#### Amnesty for aliens who overstayed visas

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government announced Monday that it will immediately begin accepting applications for amnesty from illegal aliens who overstayed their student and tourist visas. Under further notice, the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) also said it will defer the fee for such applications and issue a Temporary Work Authorisation Card, in accordance with a court directive. The action is in response to a decision by U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin. Sporkin ruled March 30 that the administration of President Ronald Reagan must broaden its standard for determining whether illegal aliens who had overstayed tourist and student visas can obtain amnesty under the 1986 Immigration Law.

#### Cancer silences apartheid foe Alan Paton

DURBAN, South Africa (R) — South African author Alan Paton, whose 1948 award-winning novel "Cry, the Beloved Country" alerted the world to the plight of blacks in South Africa, died Tuesday aged 85, his wife Anne Paton said. Paton, who devoted much of his life to writing and speaking against apartheid race laws, died at his Durban home after being treated in hospital for throat cancer. "He went peacefully, happy to have been in his own bed," Anne Paton told reporters. Co-founder and leader of the anti-government, non-racial Liberal Party until it was banned in 1968, Paton had his passport confiscated by Pretoria in 1960 and it was not returned to him until 1971.

## 'The Last Emperor' sweeps Oscars

LOS ANGELES (Agencies) — "The Last Emperor," Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci's spectacular look at China, has won nine Oscars, including Best Picture, sweeping all categories in which it was nominated for Hollywood's coveted statuette.

Ex-pop star Cher and Michael Douglas took the top acting awards at the 60th annual Academy Award presentations Monday, while Scotsman Sean Connery and Greek-American actress Olympia Dukakis won for their Best Supporting roles.

But the night belonged to Bertolucci, whose film, which told of China coming into the 20th century as seen through the eyes of Pu Yi, who went from emperor to gardener, won every award for which it was nominated, including Best Director.

"I want to thank the Chinese," a happy Bertolucci declared. The academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences had subbed the film's actors, who included Peter O'Toole and John Lone, by not nominating one of them.

The spectacular Cher, once part of the singing duo of Sonny and Cher who started taking acting lessons only eight years ago, received a standing ovation from the star-studded audience when she accepted her Oscar.

She won for her portrayal of a New York Italian widow who is reawakened by a love for her fiancé's brother in "Moonstruck."

"I don't think this means I am

somebody, but I guess I'm on my way," declared Cher, who had foregone her trademark thigh-high boots and flimsy dresses for a black gown with a sparkling silver bodice.

"I just want to go home and eat pizza," she told reporters.

"Moonstruck" also won two other Oscars, for John Patrick Shanley's Best Original Screenplay and for Dukakis, who played Cher's strong but saddened mother.

Connery, the star of seven James Bond films beginning some 25 years ago, won for his role of a feisty Irish cop who helps destroy gangster Al Capone in "The Untouchables."

"I first came here 30 years ago," said Connery, who has appeared in 44 films without being nominated before. "Patience is a virtue."

Asked if he felt part of Hollywood, he replied: "I still think I'm an outsider."

Boost for cousin

The 56-year-old Dukakis was little known to the film world but is a veteran of more than 100 stage productions. She was nominated for an Oscar for the first time.

Dukakis, jubilant as she gave her acceptance speech, sought to lend some of her winning momentum to her cousin, Democratic presidential frontrunner Michael Dukakis.

Holding her award, up, she shouted: "Okay Michael, let's

Here is a complete list of this year's Oscar winners:

Best Picture: "The Last Emperor"  
Best Director: "The Last Emperor," Bernardo Bertolucci  
Best Actor: "Wall Street," Michael Douglas  
Best Actress: "Moonstruck," Cher  
Best Supporting Actor: "The Untouchables," Sean Connery  
Best Supporting Actress: "Moonstruck," Olympia Dukakis  
Best Original Screenplay: "Moonstruck," John Patrick Shanley  
Best Screenplay Adapted from Another Medium: "The Last Emperor," Bertolucci and Mark Peploe  
Best Foreign Language Film: "Babette's Feast," ("Babette's Feast")  
Best Original Score: "The Last Emperor," Ryuichi Sakamoto, David Byrne and Cong Su  
Best Original Song: "Dirty Dancing," ("I've had the Time of My Life," with music by Frankie Preville, John Demicola and Donald Markowitz and lyrics by Frankie Preville)  
Best Cinematography: "The Last Emperor," Vittorio Storaro  
Best Art Direction: "The Last Emperor," Ferdinando Scarfotti, for Art Direction, and Bruno Cesar, for Set Direction  
Best Costume Design: "The Last Emperor," James Acheson  
Best Film Editing: "The Last Emperor," Gabriella Cristiani  
Best Sound: "The Last Emperor," Bill Rowe and Ivan Sharrock  
Best Visual Effects: "Innerspace," Denis Muren, William George, Harley Jessup and Kenneth Smith  
Best Makeup: "Harry and the Hendersons," Rick Baker  
Best Animated Short: "The Man Who Planted Trees" (Canada), Frederick Back  
Best Short Documentary: "Young at Heart," Sue Marx and Pamela Coun  
Best Documentary Feature: "The Ten-Year Lunch: The Wit and Legend of the Algonquin Round Table," Aviva Slesin  
Best Live Action Short Film: "Ray's Male Heterosexual Dance Hall," with Jonathan Sanger and Jana Sue Memel

god."

Douglas, 42, a member of one of Hollywood's most famous families, was named Best Actor for his first role as a villain, the ruthless stock manipulator Gordon Gekko in "Wall Street."

A member of the Hollywood elite who can demand five million dollars for a film, Douglas said of his father, Kirk, who has still to win an Oscar: "He is not here tonight, he is too nervous. I really and truly share this with him. He allowed me to step out of his shadow."

Asked how his award compared with winning his only other Oscar, as producer of "One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest," Douglas replied: "This means a lot more."

The show, staged before an audience of 6,000 and an estimated eventual television audience of one billion, had its ironic

side.

The tributes and jubilation came in the midst of the scriptwriters strike which has held up production of films and television programmes — and forced more ad-libbing than usual in the Oscar show at the shrine auditorium.

"If such a thing as a wish accompanied this award, mine would be to end the writers' strike," the bearded Connery told a cheering audience.

Disappointments

One of the disappointments of the night was suffered by Briton John Boorman, who had been nominated for Best Producer, Best Director and Best Screenplay for his film "Hope and Glory," a fond look at himself growing up in London during the Second World War. He came away empty-handed.



John Lone and Joan Chen as Chinese emperor Po Yi and his empress in Bernardo Bertolucci's Oscar-sweeping "The Last Emperor" (File photo)

"Broadcast News," nominated as Best Picture and whose three stars were up for awards, was also ignored.

The 4,400 film industry members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences that vote on awards are generally a conservative group that likes vast spectacles, such as "The Last Emperor."

The film has had only a limited release in the United States so far and financial analysts believe its batch of Oscars will guarantee the \$23-million production at least another \$15 million at the U.S. box office, adding to the \$100 million it has already taken overseas.

"The Academy Awards have always seemed to me like a distant ceremony, something I didn't believe in," Bertolucci said in accepting his award for Best Director. "Now I have become an Oscar victim."

The award for Best Picture was accepted by the film's British producer, Jeremy Thomas, who had raised the money for the film from European banks.

The Danish film "Babette's Feast" (Babette's Feast) won the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, beating out a strong contender in French director Louis Malle's "Au Revoir les Enfants," another look at childhood days.

The Danish film, starring

French actress Stephanie Audran, told of two elderly Danish spinners whose French housekeeper prepares a sumptuous meal that becomes a religious experience.

The song "I've had the Time of My Life," from the film "Dirty Dancing," was named the Best Original Song.

Billy Wilder, winner of six Oscars for films such as "Sunset Boulevard" and "The Apartment," received the Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award for his contribution to the film industry.



Michael Douglas as his Oscar-winning performance as a stock market manipulator in "Wall Street" (File photo)



Best Actress Oscar winner Cher finds unlikely romance in "Moonstruck" (File photo)